

R. H.
THE
English Spy:
OR,
The Intrigues, Pollicies,
and Stratagems
OF THE
French KING:
With His
Secret Contrivances,
For Undermining the
PRINCES
OF
CHRISTENDOM,
DISCOVERED.

London, Printed for Sam. Norris, 1691.

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THE EPISTLE TO THE READER.

These Observations had not come abroad at this time, but that the Creatures of France have made it their Business in all the Considerable Courts and Cities of Europe, to Magnify the Opulence of that Kingdom, the happy State of its Subjects,

Now A 2 the

To the Reader.

the *Grandeur* and *Puissance* of
its *Monarch*, and the *Excel-
lency* of that kind of *Politie*
and *Government* their *stupen-
dious Master* hath set up. To
obviate such *Parasitical Enco-
miuns*, this small Piece is
made publick, wherein may
be seen the *Unsoundness* of
those *Maxims*, by which the
more than *Inhumane Jesuits*
have led that *Ambitious Ty-
rant*; and would Influence
other *Crowned Heads*, if their
Interest could *Compass* it.
The Fate of the late *King*
of *Great Brittain* must be at-
tributed to their *Conneils*;
and, it may be, a little time
will

To the Reader.

will make it apparent, That the Cadence of France, and the Devastations in Hungary, spring from the same pernicious Root: And indeed what other Result can be expected, when a Prince shall devour his Own Subjects, to Agrandize his Power; and Violate his Leagues with his Neighbours, Ravage and Burn their Confines, under pretence of maintaining the Peace of Europe? And yet have his Ministers Brass enough in their Complexions, to insist upon such Toppicks in the Courts where they have admittance: And their Accessaries

of the *Jacobite* and *De facto*-
Party, chime to the same Tune
Exactly ; You may know
them by their *Uneasiness* when
any of our *Victorious King's*
Successes, or those of the
Brave Confederates, are men-
tioned ; with what diminutive
Reflections they shall be
thrusting into any such dis-
course ; and on the Contrary
how mightily the *Courage* and
Magnanimity of *Lewis* must
be *Exalted* ; His very *Reraits*
must be published for *Victories*,
and he must be accounted
Brave, when justly *Punished*
and *Beaten*. This little piece
presents you with a Scheme of
the

the present Condition of the
Kingdom and People of
France, in what prospect they
stand of that utter Desolati-
on which must attend all the
Adherents to Bigottisme and
Absolute Power. What can
be expected from the violent
temper of that Monarch, but
a Fate that never fails to at-
tend Rash and Inconsiderate
enterprises? Much more might
have been added on the en-
suing Heads, but the Volumn
being too strait to contain it,
it must be referred to another
Impression; which it's pro-
bable may be the History of
those ill Consequences herein

intimated it. And I doubt not
but the Sword of the Confede-
rates before it's sheathed
will oblige Louis le Grand to
say he had taken other Mea-
sures. Adherents to Bigotry
Absolute Power. What can
be expected from the violent
temper of that Monarch, but
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incipient.

THE
English Spy:

OR,
 The Intrigues of
FRANCE
 Discovered, &c.

CHAP. I.
Of the Poverty of that Kingdom.

THE desire of Novelty is
 so Natural to most that
 are confined in Prisons
 of Flesh and Blood, that
 you might as well go about to
 stop the rapid Floods of Nile, or
 to

to hinder the *stragling Thoughts* of a *Young Nun* at *Prayers*, as give checque to their *Rambling Humour*, or circumscribe them within the *Confines* of their own *Native Country*. It was an Itch of this kind that urged me to take a *Toure* into *France*, to see what *Proportion* there was between the *Representation* that *Noisie Strumpet Fame* had made concerning that so-much-talk'd-of *Country*, and the *Reality*, as demonstrated by *Matter of Fact*. Either such a *Curiosity*, or somewhat else, made me cross the *Channel*, and visit the fatal *Sands* of *Calais*, where the last *Sand* of many a *Bully's Glass* hath run out, and a *French Pass* hath past their *Souls* into another *World*.

The *Jests* and *Tournaments* of *Old* have not been more famous for *Exerting Youthful Vigour*, and

a *Profusion* of *Enamoured Blood* ; nor the *Celebrated Fields* where the *Olympick Games* were kept, never reek'd with more *Exasperated Gore* , when the *Fierce Combatants* lay weltring under the *Wheels* of each others *Chariot* : But the *Sands* of *Calais* have been oftner stained with the *Purple Jelly* of an *Irritated Monsieur*, or a distrustful *Gallant*. Hardly can a *Monsieur* be *Chowc'd* of a *Snuff-Box* , or have his *Emblematick Mushbroom* pick'd out of his *Pocket*, which was to have been *Grilled*, or *Ragusted* for *Supper*, but, out-comes the *Tilter*, and away to the *Sands*, where the *Fortune de Guerre* must decide the *Title*.

As for our *Cullies* on this side, their falling out is often about *Matters* more *frivolous*, and *contemptible* : For if *Miss* does but *look askew* , or cast a *Glance* on

another Gallant ; away goes Foot-boy with the *Challenge*, the *Yacht* is presently hired for *Calais*, and there is Fopp *decently* run through the *Lungs* ; and there's an End of a *painted, Effenced, all-to-be-Spru-cified Thing*, that has *Treated* half the *Filts* in Town, made two or three *Broils* at *Bartholomew Fair*, and afterwards went to expire on the Shore of that Country whose *Modes* he *Ape'd*, and whose *Follies* he was so fond of.

But my Business here being an Affair of another kind than that of the *Ponyard*, I will proceed to give you an Account of what further occurred worth Observation, and go on from the Sands to the Town.

This *Calais* then, is the nearest passage from *England* to *France* ; and stands so directly against *Dover*, and at so little distance, that
as

as from thence may easily be discerned the *Clefts* and *Houses* on this side, so from hence may be seen the *Castle* and *Rocks* on the *British Shore*, under whose *Protection*, no longer since than *Queen Mary*, this *then* famous, and flourishing *Town*, was: And the loss of this place so much resented that *Princess*, that, as it is recorded of her, she said, *If she were opened when dead, Calais might be found in her Heart.*

However, it hath been the Opinion of some, that the *Gallick*, and *Kentish Shores* made one entire *Continent* in ancient time; for which they alledge the resemblance of the *Clefts* on either side, and quote that of the *Poet*,

Et pænitius toto divisus Orbe Britannos.

Yet, by their Favour, there is so vast Disproportion in the *Figure*, and *Disposition* of the *Natives* on *that* side, and *this*, as may for ever silence any Notion of that **Kind**. The Rattling of the *Wooden Shoes* about the *Streets*; the mean, and dejected Aspect of the **Inhabitants**; their contemptible, and fordid way of **Living** in their Houses, where you shall have 15 or 16 sitting round a Dish of *Broath*, made on some course Fish, or a small piece of *Ordinary Beef*, boyled all to Rags: This, as I was saying, makes so vast a Difference, as from a Person of **Candor** deserves **Commiseration**; and doubtless makes the **Inhabitants** sadly regret their Fate, in being separated from the easie and gentle sway of the English Crown.

The Houses make an indifferent shew at some distance, being much
of

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of an heighth, and on each of them
a small Brick Turret like a Stack
of Chimnies, or like so many tops
of Pidgeon Houses, only the In-
habitants here are neither so *inno-*
cent, nor *useful*; for by the Ex-
ample of their great *Task Master*,
they are taught to have more of
the *Vulture* than the *Dove*: And
yet in respect of the *inside*, they
bear a great Resemblance, being
alike filled with Dung and Nastiness.
So that the *Habitations*, and
those that live in them, duly con-
sidered, are much alike; having
the *Low-Rooms* Nauseous, the
Middle very ordinary, but the
Garrets wholly *unfurnished*; so
that no Judgment can be made of
either by the outward appearance,
no more than of the Apples of
Sodom, which present very charm-
ing to the Eye, but are venomous,
and rotten within.

The *Streets* are loathsom, though often *washt* ; but it is with that which makes them so ; for the *Women* make no *Knobs* of opening their *Sluces* in your way ; so that sometimes you need *Stilts* to carry you through the *Stream*.

From hence Travelling to *Paris*, there was opportunity enough to observe what a prodigious state of *Poverty* the *Ambition*, and *Ab-soluteness* of a *Tyrant* can in a few Years reduce an *Opulent*, and *Fertile* Country to ; there were visible all the Marks, and Signs of a *Growing Misfortune*, all the *Dis-mal* Indications of an *Overwhelm-ing Calamity*. The *Fields* were *Uncultivated*, the *Villages* *Unpeopled*, the *Houses* *Dropping* to decay, the *Inhabitants* that remained peep'd out at *Doors* and *Crevices*, as if the *King's Booted Apostles* had been coming to plant the *Faith* amongst

amongst them, by *Plundering* the little that was left, and leaving the Marks of their *Prowess* on their *Affaulted Wives* and *Daughters*. Nothing presented but a general *Horror* and *Surprize*; an Universal Disorder and Uneasiness was to be seen in every Face; that the Country look'd no more like what it was represented to be in *Lewis* the *Thirteenth's* time, than an *Apple* is like an *Oyster*.

For my share, I could not but pity the *Fate* of a Race of *Men*, that should so stupidly permit themselves to be trained up under the Doctrine of *Passive Obedience*, till they had *nothing* left they could call their *Own*. *Themselves* were but so many *Drudges*, to beget and breed up *Sons* for the *Army*, *Daughters* for the *Souldiers*; to gather a few *Hogs* and *Fowl*, for the Entertainment of the *King's Troops*; a

Pipkin, a Gridiron, and Frying-Pan, a poor Covered on a Bed of Straw to pay the Salt Gabels, when there is no Meat to eat it withal; and that their very Souls too must be left to the Discretion of a parcel of Canibal Dragoons, or more Inhumane Priests! Is this the State of such as are conducted by Ecclesiastical Polity, and doth the Unlimited Sway they give the Prince terminate in this at last? And yet how equal is it, That those who so tamely part with their Reason, should have no Claim to that which is called Property?

I was diverted out of this severe Contemplation by four or five Boars, who were got in a Cluster on the Road, I suppose in Consult whether they had not best remove themselves into Ireland, when their Great Mogul had Conquer'd it, where they might meet with some Beef and Mutton to eat with

with their Salt ; and be further, as they thought, removed from the daily *Pillagings* of *Fuifiliers*, and *Pike-Men*. I must confess, I never thought the Name of *Boars* more aptly bestowed ; for they look'd as if they had been *Rooting* in the Earth, their *Faces* and *Habits* were all of a Colour, which was the same the *Dirt* of the Country bestowed on them, they seem'd never to have been befriended with any other. Being true *French-Men*, they opened upon us all at once, and enquired as briskly, *What News?* as if they had been in a *Coffee-House* in *London*.

We replyed, (for it is to be imagin'd I was not without Company.) That at the last place we came from, it was all the Discourse that the Letters from *Paris* affirmed, That the *Prince of Orange* was
Dead,

(12)
Dead, and that *Monsieur Lausun* was named *Vice-Roy* of *Ireland*. This *Success*, which they apprehended their *Tyrant* had gained, seemed to please the poor *Animals*, and they appeared, amidst their *Misfortunes*, to be eased at the supposed Advantage of *Him* that was the *Cause* of them: Such a *Stupidity* doth a Habitual State of *Slavery* bring poor Wretches to. It cannot be supposed this seeming Satisfaction proceeded from any *Love* to their *Prince*, but from a *Contrary Passion*, which makes their *Brethren* the *Indians* Worship the *Devil*.

Nor doth this base *pravity* of Mind stay behind the *Natives* when they leave the *French Territories*; but *Travails* with them into other *Regions*, and hath accompanied some, even of their *Refuges*, to *London*, where they cannot

cannot forbear to Aggrandize the
Fantastick Triumphs of their Na-
tural Sultan, and express them-
selves in favour of his *Enterprizes*,
according to that of the Poet,

*Cælum non Animum mutant quæ
trans Mare currunt.*

We could not but be astonish-
ed at the profound Simplicity of
those miserable Subjects, who
scarce deserved pity; but, before
we parted, resolved to look a lit-
tle further into their Temper, and
therefore asked, Whether they
had rather go into *Ireland*, or
continue in their own Country?
They replied, *Ireland*, if there
were no Souldiers there. By
which we perceived their Animo-
sity was more against the *Army*,
than *Him* that Empowered them
to commit all their Rapines and
De-

Depredations : Not unlike the Dog that catcheth at the Stone, and considereth not the Hand from whence it came.

Thus, being throughly fatisfied of the *Tallent* of these Sons of Ignorance, we proceeded on our way for *Paris*. We had hardly passed a Bow-shot from them, when one of our Company, looking back, perceived the *Boars* had their Company augmented by the accession of near twice their Number, who had lain coneealed in the Ditches, or Dunghils adjacent ; they appeared to be full of Action, Shrugging, and Grimacing at one another, they seemed as if they had a mind to *Dance*, such a Transport were they in upon their *Imaginary Successes* ; so forgetful of their *Infelicities*, as if *Inconsideration* and *Levity* were the principal *Ingredients* in their Com-

Composition; and there is no doubt but they concluded the Evening with *Fireworks*, and *Illuminations* on that Important Occasion.

During the rest of our Journey, we were not without continual objects that brought such Reflections to our thoughts as must be the natural result of seeing so noble a Country, abounding with all the *fertillity* and *fragrancy* of *Arcadia*, over run with *Bryars* and *Weeds*, like the Ground that is nigh unto *Cursing*: Houses of *Nobles* and *Gentlemen*, left desolate; their *Inhabitants* either Compelled to ride in the King's *Troops*, or to serve among the *Infantry*, and to take their *sustenance* where they can *pillage* it; the wretched *Residue* that remain at home so stript, that they are forced to pick the *Fields* for *Salads*.
Amongst

Amongst the rest were visible the Ruines of some *considerable Houses*, belonging to the better quallify'd *Refugies*; these had suffered such *demolishment* and *dislapidation*, as if they had been under the *Revengefull Attacks* of the *Incensed Apprentices* on an *Easter-Tuesday*; Nay, those *Nau-tious Houses* of *Pollution* have found more *Mercy* from their *Irritated Gallants*, than the *honest dwellings* of an *Innocent* and *Industrious People*, or their *persons* either, could meet with at the hands of the *Inhumane Dragoons*.

CHAP.

(17)

C H A P. II.

*Containing many Reasons why the
French Nation must be Poor,
from their Church.*

IT was my good Fortune on
the Road to meet with a per-
son, who had the figure of one
well *Descended*, and of answerable
Acquirements; after we had
been a little time together, I found
my self not at all deceived; for
he having heard with what com-
passion we were observing that
despoiled Country, he entertain'd
us with the following account:

Gentlemen, said he, I per-
ceive your great Human-
ty, in the Condolance you make
of the deplorable state you find
this Country in, and because,
withall,

(45)
withall, I understand you to be Strangers; I shall give you the best account I can of the *Reasons* why this great *Calamity* is come upon *France*, and the *Methods* by which it hath been brought to pass: and perhaps you have not met with a person the most *Incompetent* to satisfy your *Curiosity* in these affairs, because what I shall relate to you is the effect of many Years *Observation* and *Experience*. It is Impossible for us to think aright of the *Calamities* of this *Naturally Rich*, and *Uberous Country*, unless at the same time we consider the *Temper* and *Constitution*, of the several *Degrees* of people that make up this *Great* and *Ruinous Body*: and these may be distinguished into

The Church, or Ecclesiasticks.
The Nobles and Gentry.

The

The Tax-Gatherers, and Court Officers.

The Army in all its parts.

The Peasants, or Villains, and
Lastly the Court, separately
considered.

The *Church of France* comprehends all *Orders* and degrees of persons, whose dependance is upon any part of the Revenue arising from any spiritual *Donation*, or *Office* whatsoever. The *Number* of these is so *Vast* and *Immenfe*, that they are enough to be the *Seminaries* of *Uncharitableness*, and *Licentiousness* through the *Universe*: For as the *All-wise Founder* of the *Christian Religion* and *Doctrine*, at first *Commissionated* but *Twelve Apostles*, and forbid them any *Claim*, so much as to the *necessary supports of Life*. Our *Clergy* have by their matchless *Avarice* stripped

Stripped the rest of *men* of their *Competencies*, and by the *squabbles* amongst the several *Orders* of their *Clergy*, have destroyed that *Peace* and *Mutual Charity*, which is the only *satisfaction* of *Humane Life*; and by their *Lewd* and *Impious Debaucheries*, have brought the *sober* and *honest* profession of *Virtue* in *Contempt*, amongst their *Inconsiderate Flocks* and *Followers*: nor can I at any time think of a *National Clergy*, without reflecting on that *Voice* which was said to be heard over all the *Empire*, that day when *Constantine the Great* endowed the *Church* with *Temporal Patrimonies* and *Profits*; and, as I take it, one *Cambden* a famous *Antiquary* of your *Country*, mentions the words that were uttered by that *Voice*,

*Hec dies Venenum Infunditur
in Ecclesia.*

which

which I am confident every Age since hath been more and more sensible of: for instead of that *Humble* and *Compassionate* disposition which then recommended their *Doctrines* and *Functions*, they are now arrived to such a degree of *Ambition* and *Insolence*, that they juggle for *preheminnence* with *Princes*, and take the *upper hand* of *Nobles*; and well may their *Prelates* and *Abbots* aspire to this, when their *Pontificate* shall set himself *above what is called God*, which puts me in mind of a witty saying of one, *That the Mercies of God, and the Ambition of the Clergy, are Infinite.*

And so, as I began to say, are their *Numbers* too, for like the *Froggs* and *Caterpillars* of *Egypt*, they cover the Land. *Boterus* a famous Historian, gives an account, That there are

Twelve

Twelve Arch-Bishopricks.

One hundred and four Bishopricks.

Five hundred and forty Arch-Priories.

One thousand four hundred and fifty Abbies.

Twelve thousand three hundred and twenty Priories.

Five hundred sixty seven Nunneries.

One hundred and thirty thousand Parish Priests.

Seven hundred Covents of Fryers.

Two hundred fifty nine *Commendums* of the Knights of *Malta*.

Another Historian named the *Cabinet du Roy*, gives account, that no less then *Three Millions* of *People* live upon the *Church Revenues of France*; neither doth
he

he stick to set down the *Number* of all sorts of *Religions* in each *Diocefs*, as well as a *List* of their *Whores*, *Bawds*, *Bastards*, and *Servants* of all kinds; and withal tells ye, That he may as well do that, as the *Magicians* in their account of their *Diabolick Monarchy* undertake to set down the *Names* and *Sirnames* of *Seventy Six Princes*, and *Seven Millions*, four hundred and five thousand nine hundred twenty and six *Devils*. To maintain this prodigious swarm of *Locusts*, the same *Cabinet* tells us, that their *Revenues* are *four-score Millions* of *Crowns*, per *Annum*, which makes just *Twenty Millions Sterling*, belides their *Baise Mani*, which he reckons as much more, and that over and above all this 40000000 of pounds. They have incredible *Reserves* of *Provisions*, which are annually laid

laid into their *Stores*, besides their
Rents; and these are brought in
 by their *Farmers*, and *Tenants*,
 which he reckons thus,

Wheat	4500000	} Quarters.
Rye—	2300000	
Oats—	900000	
Barly—	800000	
Pease & Beans }	860000	
Capons	160000	
Hens—	560000	
Partridge	50000	
Beeves—	12000	
Muttons	120000	
Wine—	120000	Cunes.
Eggs--	7000000	Quintals.
Butter	230000	
Cheese	500000	
Hogs—	136000	Quintals
Pigs—	340000	
Tallow--	60000	
Hay—	600000	Loads.
Straw--	800000	Besides
Wood--	2000000	

Besides prodigious quantities of other necessaries which are there reckon'd up, I may well say more than the whole *value* of the *Kingdom* can be supposed to amount to: For the general *survey* of *France* amounts but to 200 Millions of *Arpins*, or *Acres*, Yearly, and that Sum, and more this *Cabinet* computeth to the *Clergy*; and by that account there would *nothing* remain to the *other Estates*. And tho' this large *proportion* may rather favour of a Natural *Vanity*, and *Affectation*, peculiar to Our *Countrymen*; yet if the yearly *Incomes* of *France* amounted to twice as much, and it were all settled on those Holy Men, you should still have them, with the *barren Womb*, crying *Nunquam satis*, or with the *Daughter* of the *Horse-Leech*, Give, give.

C

But

But to compute more modestly with *Bodin* of *Almane*, to whom credit may be given, because he was *President* of *Accounts* in *Paris*, who affirms, that if the *Revenue* of *France* be divided into *Twelve* parts, the Church may very well be computed to engross *Seven*.

I have seen besides, continued he, a piece, Entituled, *Coment de l'Estat*, wherein is a particular of the *Vineyards*, *Meadows*, *Arable*, *Pasture*, *Heaths*, and *Woods*, which put together makes a prodigious Income, enough to make a *Miser blush*: But the *Clergy*, not satisfy'd with this, find other ways to *Fleece*, and *Impoverish* their *Laity*; for they have, besides all this great profusion of *Income*, their *Baise mani*, as I said, which consist in their profits arising from *Churchings*, *Christnings*, *Marriages*, *Burials*, *Holy Bread*, *Indulgences*,
Vows,

Vows, Pilgrimages, Feasts, Processions, Prayers for Cattle, for Seasonable Weather, for Children, against all manner of Diseases, and Infinite such purposes; besides all which, there is hardly an Acre of ground but there is some Dirige or de profundis, some Libera me Domine, or some other Spiritual duty to reckon, for which the poor Bigotted Wretches must draw their purse strings, or else, the Woman shall conceive no more, the Child dye of the Convulsion, the Man go home without his Wife, the Friend be denied the Holy Turf, remain in Mortal Sin, and obtain no pardon; Nay his Piggs, Cattle, Chicken, shall die of the Murraine, or the Pip, and the Vineyard be scorched, the Fields yield no Corn, or the Devil run away with all the Man hath. This is the Terrible case of

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him

him that falls under the *frowns* of the *Man of God* : And this is the *happiness* that *Nation* must expect, where *Ignorance*, and *Avarice*, are the *Qualification* of the *Ministry*, and the *Laity* are compelled to pay *Obedience*, and an *Implicite Faith* to such *Oracles*.

We acknowledged our selves much Obligated to this worth person, for the extraordinary Account he had given us of the *Clergy* and their *Revenue*, and could not but admire that so vast a Fund of Treasure should be settled to maintain a *Generation* of men, who in most of the *Actions* of their *Lives*, appear to be the *Reproach* not only of the *Sacred Order* they profess, but of the whole *Race* of *Mankind*; and withal to *Congratulate* the happy *State* of our own *Nation* of *England*, that were so wonderfully saved

saved from those *Egyptian Crocodiles*, by whom we must of necessity have been devoured if the *Designs* of the *French King*, and those of the *late King of Great Brittain* had taken effect; and we could not but conclude, that it were much better that the *Treasure* devoured by those *Cormorants* should be spent in a *War* to defend the *Nation* from their gross *Impositions*, then ever again to be *Enslaved* to their *Intollerable Yoke*.

The *Priests* in *France*, are the most profoundly *Ignorant* & *sordid Animals* in *Nature*; the *Brackmans* amongst the *Indians*, and the *Dervises* in *Turkey*, are *Virtuoso's* to them. They are in as much subjection to their *Prince*, as their *blind Votaries* are to *Them*, and are at his pleasure as liable to be stript of their *Plate*, *Treasure*, and

very *Covents*, as they are to Fleece the *Enslaved Layity* of their *Properties*. *Murther*, amongst them, is esteemed no *Mortal Sin*, but on the contrary *Meritorious*, if to promote the Interest of *Holy Church*; *Adulteries*, *Rapines*, *Symony*, and almost all manner of *Depravities* are winked at, or at least seldom reprov'd in their *Sermons*, or *Preachments*, lest in so doing the dirt should fall on their own *Cloaths*; and their wretched *Flocks* being led more by the *Vicious* Examples of their *Priests*, than inclined to follow those paths of *Virtue* they so seldom hear of; *promiscuously* wallow with their *Uncleane Shepherds*, in the most brutish *Impiety* and *Sensuality*. Their *Doctrines* are so *fullsome*, and *Ridiculous*, as are enough to *Nauseate* the *Pallate* of a *Moralist*, and favour
more

more of the *Stage* than *Pulpit*. And for *Learning*, they are generally the most *Illiterate* Coxcombs in Nature, of which I will present you with a taste or two, and so conclude this Chapter.

It happened a discourse arising in Company where one of these *Rabins* was, a Question was put how many *Worlds* there were? To which, one presently replied *Ten*; at which the *Priest* answered, That could not be, for he had never understood of more than *Four*; and that was first the *Heavenly World*; Secondly the *Earthly World*; Thirdly the *Lower World*; and fourthly the *Cleansing World*, or *Purgatory*; but one present reply'd, he could prove by Scripture there were *Ten* Worlds, and quoted that Text, in the Latin Translation, about cleansing the Lepers: *An non Decem sunt facti Mundi?*

Mundi? To which the Father Learnedly answered, That he had never read the Bible.

No whit Inferiour to this, were his acquirements, that told his Auditors, *The Moon was that hole in Heaven out of which the Angells fell, and when their black Legions endeavoured to Re-enter, St. Michael with his flaming Sword chased them away; and the brightness which then appeared was the Glory of Paradise, which shined thro' the hole; but when St. Michael withdrew, strait those sooty Spirits resorted again to the place, and that Obscured the Light, and sometimes Occasioned a total Eclipse.* If this be not admitted for wholesome Divinity, and profound Philosophy, then I know not what will. In the mean time, it must be acknowledged to be very Edifying. But he that will take the pains to
look

look into their *Legends*, shall find them Crawl all over with such *Miraculous Nonsense*, as cannot but be very astonishing. Such like passages have made them so out of request amongst some of the more Intelligent, that they have not only brought their *Persons*, but their *Mysteries* in *Contempt*, which they have not forbore to Express even on their death Beds, as the following *Stories* will manifest.

A *Parisian* lying very sick, his *Ghostly Father*, with a vigilance no less than that of a *Crow* or *Raven* over a dying *Sheep*, came with his *Corpus Domini*, telling the *Infirm*, that he had brought his *Saviour* to comfort him in this his *Extremity*: To which the dying man replied; Father, I believe this to be the *Body* of my *Lord*, for he comes to me, as once

he did to Jerusalem, *C'est un Asne*
qui le porte, It is an Ass that
brings him.

Another Gentleman in like condition, having the *Host* brought him by a fat Lubber-like Fryar; Sir, quoth the Priest, I am come to offer you the Sacrifice of the Church, and to administer the Extreme-Union, to secure your Soul in its passage into the other World; for when you are once anointed with this *Holy Oyl*, no Evil Spirit will have power to come near you; and you must believe that the *Host* I here tender to you, is the real *Flesh* and *Bloud* of our Lord. The Infirm person, considering that it was *Fryday*, returned this answer; I am to Yield with you that the *Host* you bring me is *Flesh* and *Bloud*, and therefore I dare not Receive it, under peril of Damnation,

nation, since *Holy Church* hath declared it *Unlawful to eat Flesh on Frydays*.

It is not to be forgotten, that their *Religious* men, as they will be called, are the most famous *Brokers* in *Europe*, and the *Bordello's* in *Venice* cannot sooner accommodate you with a *Feme Correspondent* than those *Wolves* in *Holy Orders*, and herein they shall drudge as *Naturally* as the greatest *Haradan* about the *Mal*; and have thereby acquired the reputation of the best *Procurers* in *France*. In fine, this is the *Church*, and these the *Pastors* that *Lewis the Great* is for converting the *World* to; it being Morally impossible to keep up *Slavery* in the *State*, where *Ignorance* and *Bigottry* are not the constitution of the *Church*; and that is a great reason why *Tyrants* have generally been fond of that *Religi-*

on, or rather why that Religion Naturally promotes Tyranny.

And there is no doubt, but, by this means, in a short time, that may be said of France, which the Ingenious Mr. Feltham says of the Low-Countreys on the like occasion: They are, says he, a Glass wherein Kings may see that tho' they claim a Sovereignty over Lives and Goods, yet when they Usurp upon God's part, and would be Kings over Conscience too, they are justly punish'd with the loss of their own Empire; for that Religion too fiercely Urged, is like a string over strained, which when it bursts sometimes whips the strainers Eyes out.

C H A P.

CHAP. III.

Of the Nobles, or Gentry.

BY this time we were come to our *Hostel* at *Amiens*, where also we had the Company of that *Worthy Person* who gave us most of the foregoing *Relations*, and an *Assurance* that we might have his Company to *Paris*, for that his Occasions called him thither: This fell out as happily as could be wish'd for us, for that thereby we had an Opportunity put into our Hands to pay some Acknowledgments for his great Civilities to *Strangers*, and further to make our Inquiries into the State of the *Nobles, or Gentry*, whereof he was as capable of informing us as any Person we could

could hope to meet withal. But before we proceed to that, it will be necessary to tell you what sort of Entertainment we had at our *Inn* ; it being high time, after so long Travail , to think of somewhat for *Supper*.

The *Rooms* were not sprinkled with *Essences* , nor strow'd with *Lavander* ; and I am apt to think, were as much Strangers to *Dutch Cleanliness*, as the People are to *Dutch Liberty*: They seemed as if they had been taken up for a *Leager* ; every thing presented somewhat of the *Fury*, and *Fancy* of the *Dragoons* , in some the *Tables* , and *Benches* were hackt by their *Bayonets* , till there was hardly enough left to kindle a *Fire* ; the *Glass-Windows* had endured such *Batteries*, that the *Lead* remained like *Fishing-Nets* ; the *Walls* were inscribed with *Curses* and

and *Maledictions* of the *Hugonots*,
and with *Emblems* of their *Loyalty*
and *Devotion*; such as may be
seen about many of the *Bog-houses*
in *London*. Our Friend told us,
that things were not used to ap-
pear in such *disorder*; but at the
sametime acknowledged his *Coun-*
try-Men were not of the Number
of those that affected an *Over-*
Niceness, but rather a *Negligence*
agreeable to their *Climate*: In the
mean time we could not but think
there was a great deal of diffe-
rence between *Niceness*, and *Na-*
stiness. The *Warming-Pan*, and
Brasses were not here muffled up
in *Point*, or *Cut-work*, after the
manner of *Holland*, for there were
no such things to be seen; but in
stead of that, the *Kitchen* was
adorned with *Frying-Pans*, *Spits*
and *Gridirons*, that might be *smelt*
farther than they could be seen;
they

(45)
they were so *cased* in *Rust* and *Filth*, that it could not be discerned what they had been made of: The *Dresser*, or rather *Sink*, was loaded with *Garbage* of *Fish*, and *Fowl* that had lain *Mortifying* there for some time: On one side lay a *Nasty Comb* among some *Onions*, and *Mushrooms*; on the other side *flashed* the *snuff* of a *Candle*, that like a *burning Island* was blazing in an *Ocean* of *Equid Tallow* that floated round about it.

The *Cooks*, for all that were there appeared alike, had the *Locks* of their *Hair* so *stuck together*, and *rampant*, that I thought 'em descended from *Megea*, or *Alecto*; and was the more confirmed in that *Opinion*, when I saw their *Claws*, or *Tallons*, which had a *border sable* an *Inch* deep before you came to their *Fingers*. I was at a loss to comprehend this *Mode*,
till

till I saw one of them clap *His Scoop* in a *Saucepan*, and then concluded they kept their *seasoning* at their *Fingers Ends*; for you could not but imagine there was enough under each *Nail* to favour a *Tub* of *Soop*. *Five Hundred* of these *Fellows* in a *Garison* would starve a *Leaguer*, for, like *Russian Bears*, they might live a *Winter* by sucking of their *Claws*.

Their *Aprons* and *Wastcoats* looked like *Leather*, or *Tarpaulin*; but had an *Odour* that cast farther, and was much stronger than that of *Tar*. These you cannot but acknowledge to be incomparable *Whets*, and doubt not but by this time you begin to feel an *Apperite* as well as my self; if not, that which follows cannot fail to get you a *Stomach*. Whilst we were ordering a *Dish* of *Broath*, some *Rabbits* and *Mushrooms* for our
Supper,

Supper, a little *Hog*, that knew the way to Supper, when the People had neglected him, came into the *Kitchen*; and Nusking about, at length found a *Kettle* in a Corner, upon which clapping his *Fore-feet*, he endeavoured to reach at the Liquor therein contained, and straining a little beyond his reach, *fell in Head and Ears*: This put the People in some disorder, and there was a confounded *Jabber* for some time on that Occasion; but *Piggie* was took out, and held by the Fore-legs, whilst the *Nectar* was stroaked back into the *Kettle*. My Man told me, that the next Morning he saw the same Liquor set on the Fire, and a Quart or two of Water put into it, to make up what was lost, and that it was *Disht* about amongst them, with a *Fort bon Swoop, Monsieur*.

We

We retired to our Room, and called for some Wine to wash our Throats from the *Fumes* of the *Kitchen*, where we ordered our Servants to stay, and take care that none of the *strong Broath* out of the *Kettle* were added to heighten the *Gust* of ours. After some time, *Supper* was brought in; the first Dish presented a *Piece* of *Course Beef*, about two Pounds, *Stuft* or *Larded* with *Dabs* of *Bacon*, so greasie, that 'twas enough to turn the Stomach of a *Kitchinstuff-Woman*; there was likewise a *Piece* of *Pork* about the same bigness, and I admire how that escap'd *Larding* too: These swom in a large *Bason* of *Potage*, of the right *French* Composition, where you could not fail of *Cabbage-stumps*, *Leeks* and *Garlick*, whose *sowre Belches* might serve for *Refectiion* two or three days after. The *Rab-*
bitts,

bits, too, were *Larded* as thick as Hops, and the *Mushrooms Frica-see'd* with some *Onions*, and laid about them. I called for the chief *Cook*, and asked him the Reason why they made all their *Broaths* and *Sauces* of one taste? But I could receive no answer but *Fort bon Monsieur*, *Fort bon pour le Stomach*; but with my self could not but conclude it necessary to drown one *Stink* with another. I asked him where he had served his time? He replied, At *Paris*, with *Monsieur Ragust*. After this, a Dish of *Chestnuts* and *Apples*, which was the *wholsomest* part of the Entertainment, concluded the *Meal*; of which I will now say no more, nor of our *Lodging*, lest it for ever take your *Stomach* from *Breakfast*.

We had *Twenty Stories* of *Cookery* before we went to *Bed*; and the next *Morning* upon the *Road*,

Road, the 'foreſaid Gentleman gave us the promiſed Relation of the *French Noblesſs, or Gentry*, after this manner:

It hath been obſerved, (*ſaid he*), that *Nobility* either comes by *Deſcent*, when it can be proved that a *Fee, and Knights Service* thereto belonging, hath for a long *Tract of time* reſided in a *Family*; Or from *Valour*, when for ſome extraordinary piece of *Service* to the *Publick*, either by *Land or Sea*, a *Brave Man* is juſtly honoured with a *Title*, and *Fortune* to ſupport it. Or from *Virtue*, when by ſome *ſagacious and timely Counſel*, or by a *Persons* well acquitting himſelf under a *Publick Character*, the *State, or Nation* is preſerved. But by what *Fate Eccleſiaſticks* came to be crouded into *Temporal Honours and Offices*, perhaps the great *Louis* will

will have time to consider, when he shall feel himself plunged in an *Inextricable perplexity* and *ruine* by *their* means. It's certain neither *King*, nor *Kingdom* hath ever *thriven* since they have been admitted to *Cabinet*, or *Council Board*. Their *business* should be of another *Nature* than that of this *World*, and there is little hope they should be seeking places in *Paradise* for themselves, or others, whilst with a more Ardent *Zeal* they are so fast glued to their parts in *Paris*.

But above all, he indeed is the most *Honourable* person, who, despising the gayeties of *Court Titles*, and *Pageantry*, out of an innate *Bravery* of *Soul*, and a *victorious Humility* of *mind*, sets himself to serve and save his *Country* without partiality to *Interests*, or *Factions*: He that is of a truly *Generous*, and
publick

publick Spirit, promoting the good of Mankind in general, without being restrained by sinister Piques and prejudices : He that Bountifully distributes of the Bounties of Fortune, to the support of Men Oppressed for their Integrity ; and wastes not his Noble patrimony in Extravagant Gaming, or Ostentatious Equipages ; but in a courteous hospitality, and Charitable distribution : And that, by all means, loaths a Niggardly, pernicious, avaricious way of Living to himself, like the Hog to his own Sty, and wallowing in his own filth ; Heaping up Riches and Curses to himself, and posterity, till his Unlamented Herse privately lays his Carcass to consume amongst his Brother Earthworms, whilst his heaps of Extortion are dispersed by Extravagants or Strangers. This,
this

this is the truly Noble Man, according to that of the Poet,

*Et Genus, & Proavos, & quæ
non fecimus Ipsi
Vix ea Nostra vero.*

Paraphrased thus,
Give me that Honour which
from *Virtue* springs,
And scorns to boast the Line-
age of *Kings*,
Or *Ancient Shields* that were
by *Grandfires* worn;
He's truly Noble doth himself
Adorn
With Brave Atchievements;
What's that Honour worth
Which more *Heroick Ancestors*
brought forth?
If thy like-Virtues Claim thy
Father's Coat,
'Tis truly Honourable, else a Blot.
And

And according to this there may be *Noble Peasants*, and *Peasantly Nobles*, whilst many times a person *Meanly descended* shall be *Enobled* with the Ornaments of *Vertue*, *Temperance*, and *Courage*; and another *derived*, perhaps, from *Royal Bloud*, shall have nothing to boast of but his *Pedigree*.

The highest degree of Honour in *France* is that of the *Pairrie*, or *Peerage*, in which Order formerly were not above *Seventeen*, sometimes *Twelve*, or *Seven*: They are so called, *quasi Pares*, or *Equalls*, because they sit in *Parliament*, and in *Council* with the *King*. They take place of all other *Nobles*, and the *Pairrie* of the *Bloud*, tho' they were latest called to that Dignity, have the Precedence amongst them. Six of these are of the *Clergy*, forsooth, which are,

D

Arch

Arch-Bishop and Duke of
Rhemes.

Bishop and Duke of *Laon.*

Bishop and Duke of *Langres.*

Bishop and Comptre of *Beauvois.*

Bishop and Comptre of *Nown.*

Bishop and Comptre of *Chalons.*

And to them is added the Arch-Bishop and Duke of *Paris.* To which he was preferred for his great Service to the Church and State, in finding out, that the *Romish Religion*, and that of the *Hugonets* are One and the very same in the Bottom or Fundamental point ; which doubtless is a secret that no body ever met with before him, and may pass for a Revelation, for which he deserves to be *Sainted*; as well as Saint *Catherine*, and Saint *Bridget*, for the discoveries they made; and then it may be said there was a
Saint

Saint of the *Peerage* of *France*, as well as a *St. Lewis* among their *Kings*; But that being a stile too *Low* for the present *Monarch*, he intends to set up for a *Deity*, and then he can have no *Pairries*.

But it may be *Posterity* will have but *Odd thoughts* of the matter, when they shall reflect upon what his *Majesty* hath done in *Banishing*, *Gallying*, *Jayling*, and *Starving* those that are declared by his *Arch-Bishop* to be of the same *Religion* with himself, and his *Infallible Dragoons*.

There were likewise formerly six *Temporal Peers*, which were, the *Duke of Burgundy*, *Duke of Normandy*, *Duke of Guyenne*, *Compt of Tholous*, *Compt of Champaigne*, *Compt of Flanders*. In the time of *Charles the Fifth*, there were added of the *Bloud*, the *Dukes of Bretaine*, *Burbon*,
D 2 *Anjou*,

Anjou, Bezué, Orleans, and the Compts of Artois, Ereux, Alanson, and Estampes; and in the times of Charles the Ninth, and Henry the Third, there were the following Pairries erected, Nevers, Vandosme, Guise, Monpensier, Beaumont, Albert, Aumarle, Memoranche, Uzès, Pentheur, Mercœur, Joieuſe, Espernon, Rets, Monbafon, Vantadoure, with divers others; Many of which are decayed and extinct, and new Creatures raised for the merit of their Services, in helping to destroy the Northern Hereſie, and ſetting up the Statutes of their mighty Maſter, ſuch as Monſieur Colbert, Monſieur Lovois, and the Duke of Fenilade, with others. Not but that many of the Nobles have been Illuſtrious for their Integrity, and honourable Actions, and they have ſhined in their lofty ſpheres
like

like the *Stars* of *Heaven*, whose *Names* will ever be *precious* to *Posterity*.

He that compareth the present *State* of the *Nobles* of *France*, with that of the times of *Lewis* the *Twelfth*, and *Francis* the *Fifth*, will find so vast a disproportion as is almost incredible; one *Nobleman* hath, upon his own account been able to *raise*, and *maintain* an *Army*: Their *Wealth* was lookt upon as *formidable*; many *considerable Families* had their *Rise* from their *Service*; whereas now they are *Reduced* to *serve* the *King* in his *Wars*: and many persons of good *Competence* and *Fortune* have been *Ruined* by *Employments* under them.

And it is upon this *Account*, that one of their own *Historians* saith of them, that as they are the *smallest* in *Number*, so they

are *Poorest in Living* ; so that if they were divided into *Ten* parts, *Eight* of them would be found almost *Biggard* by *Sales*, *Mortgages*, and *Debts*. He imputeth their decay to *Five Reasons*, which he reckons thus ; 1. *Civil Wars*, 2. *Superfluous expence in Apparel*, 3. *Houshold-stuff*, 4. *Building*, 5. *Diet and Followers*. But there are other *Reasons* to be assigned, which will appear to be more applicable at this time, and they may be these :

First, the *General Poverty* to which the *Nation* is reduced by *Oppression and Tyranny*, so that they cannot *Rent*, *Stock*, nor *Cultivate* the *Lands* of the *Nobles*.

Secondly, the *Banishing* the *Protestants*, many of whose *Nobles*, and *Gentry*, were *Temperate* and *Sober* in their *Families*, *Regular* in their *Expences*, *Courteous* to their *Tenants*,
and

and that paid their debts honestly to the support of the Publick. The *Mechanicks*, and *bandy-crafts* were *Industrious*, *Thriftv*, and the main supporters of the *Trade of France*.

Thirdly, the *Equipages* which the *Nobles* and *Gentry* are Compelled to Charge themselves withall, to keep *Campaignes* and *Marches* with the Army.

Fourthly, That general want of *Learning* that is amongst our *Gentry*, they breeding their *Sons* in such *Academies* as the *Fathers* of the *Faculty*, I mean the *Infernal Jesuits* think fit; for these *Men*, or rather *Devils Incarnate*, being sensible that *Knowledge* and *Virtue* are absolute *Enemies* to their *Pol.ticks* and *Morals*, have made it their business to render *Unfashionable* those *Studies* that most accomplish men for an *Inspection* into *their Own*, and the

Publick concerns ; and instead thereof have so brought it about, that *Dancing, Fencing, Riding the great Horse*, and a few common Notions in the *Mathematicks*, are to be accounted the only *Gentile*, and *Modish studies* for Persons of *Quality*. By this means they are *Trained up* in a way of *Inconsiderateness*, and *Inconsequence* of their *Domestick Affairs*, and the *Care* of their *Estates*, and the *Church* having enough to *Live on*, it's no matter for the *rest of men* ; *Ignorance* and *Poverty* are a *portion* fit enough for *them*.

A Fifth Reason may be, That *Divine Curse* which never fails to follow *Tyrants* and *Persecutors*, in all their *Councils* and *Undertakings*, and it may be, that before the *Swords* of the *Confederates* are sheathed, *Lewis the Great* may find his *Extraordinary Politicks* and

and Councils, like those of *Achitophel*, turned into Foolishness: And that great *Bounce* and *Vapour* he hath made of grasping the *Universal Empire*, to Terminate in the *Dividing his Dominions and Territories*, amongst those that shall Employ their Power more for the good of *Mankind* than ever this *Mighty Boaster* hath done.

I have read, continued he, in the book called *Cabinet du Roy*, which I mentioned to you Yesterday, such a Character of the *Nobility* and *Gentry* of the several *Provinces of France*, as, perhaps, might not be so applicable at *that time* as it is *now*, and indeed very ill becomes the Lips of a Country man at any time, but at the same I am compelled to say *Pudet hec Oprobria dice*; he saith,

The Nobles of *Bery* are *Leachers*.

The Nobles of *Tourraine* are *Thieves*.

The Nobles of *Guyenne* are *Coiners*.

The Nobles of *Tholouse* are *Traytors*.

The Nobles of *Narbonne* are *Covetous*.

The Nobles of *Province* are *Atheists*.

The Nobles of *Lyanous* are *Perfidious*.

The Nobles of *Rhemes* are *Superstitious*.

The Nobles of *Normandy* are *Insolent*.

He goes on to *Characterise* the other *Provinces* much after the same manner, but I have forgot the *Epithets* he gives them. But by this it may be perceived how the

the persons of the first *Quality* were at that time sunk in their *Fortunes* and *Reputations*, and it is as Evident that they have advanced in neither since, nor indeed is it possible they should, since it hath been the great business at Court to *discontinue* Men of Principles and Honour; and to prefer such whose *Moralls* have been *Corrupt* and *Debauched*, as being fitter *Tools* to carry on that Prince's *black designs*, to Enslave not only his own Subjects, but all Europe; so that the ready way to preferment with *Louis the Fourteenth*, is to *Excell* in some *Exquisite Treachery*; as *Monsieur Catinat*, who for that Reason was proscribed *Venice*, the late *Bishop of Cologne*, who *Betrayed* the *Palatinate*; to whom may be added the *Cardinal Furstenberg*, the *Arch-Bishop of Paris*, the *Grand-Prior*, with many others.

S A H C

And

And it was such a *sort* of *Merit* that, not long since, recommended *Persons* to *Titles* and *Trust* in *your Country*, where, I have been told *Ganimesdes* have been made *Dukes*, and *Strumpets* promoted to be *Dutchesses*; *Skipps* and *Varlets* had *Command* in the *Army*; and a pitiful *Irish Priest* was made a *Marquis* and *Ambassador*. However, as bad as our *Nobles* are, we have found means to *plant* them in the *Courts* of some *Neighbour Princes*, where they pass for good *Protestants*, or good *Subjects*; and serve the *Crown* for no small purposes; And it will be a hard matter if we lose the *Game*, when we know what *Cards* are in the *Opposite hand*.

C H A P. IV.

*Of Tax-Gatherers, Court-Officers,
and the Army.*

BY this time we came to a Village where divers Carts, loaden with *Lumber*, and a *miserable* parcel of *Houshold-stuff* of divers sorts, as if some Hospital had been to be removed ; and we imagined the People had been about to Transplant their Habitations : But at length, perceiving amongst them some *Files of Fuziliers*, we then concluded that it was some *Seizure* made for the *Kings Gabels*, or Taxes : And it was no otherwise. There were a parcel of old and decrepid People, and many Children, making a dreadful Clamour for the poor
Re-

Remainders of their Goods. Some of the *Men* had their *Sons*, and the *Women* their *Husbands* in the *Army*; those that brought them in their *Daily Bread*, were either *killed*, or daily *hazarding* their *Lives* in the *Kings Service*; and yet his *Tax-Gatherers* were come to strip these *to-be-pitied Wretches* of that little that remained. I heard divers of them say, they had nothing left to make a little *Broath* in for their *Children*; others, that they had not a *Bed* to lie on, nor a *Blanket* to cover them. This lamentable Object moved us to *Compassion*, and we could not but have some sensible Impressions of the great *Hardship* they laboured under: But the *Soldiers* and *Collectors*, being accustomed to *Actions* of *Cruelty*, laughed, and mock'd them. One of the *Officers* brought a *Fiddle* out

out of a certain House, and was followed by a lame Fellow, who used many *Intreaties*, and made sad *Remonstrances* of the pitiful Condition he should be in, if that were carried away; it was his whole Estate, all he had to live upon in the World. The other Wretches, though they saw almost all the Necessaries they had carrying away from them, yet besought the Officer more in behalf of the Fidler, than themselves; alledging, If that Instrument were taken away, they should then have nothing left to *divert*, and *solace* themselves amidst their Sorrows, but must at once be stripped of all the *Comfort* of their *Lives*. Perceiving the profound *stupidity* and *ignorance* of those poor People, we joyned our Intercessions in behalf of the *Minstrel*; whereupon the Officer, after some sage *Remarques*

marques on the *Necessity* of paying
 the *Kings Dues*, consented, on
 Condition that they should give
 him three or four *Dances* for his
favour. The Fidler, over-joyed
 with the *Re-possession* of his *Tene-*
ment, tickled up his *Minstrel* to
 some tune, and the *Monsieurs* and
Madams Danc'd like so many *Pup-*
pets acted by *Wyers*, or *Springs*;
 Some, with their *Feet* *stuf* in
Wooden Boxes with Hay, or
 Straw; others shak'd off their
Timber-Slippers, and tript it on
 their *Primitive Trotters*; the Old
 and Young, *Matron* and *Infant*,
 all moved as naturally to the
 Notes of the *Fiddle*, as *Virginal-*
Jacks Capen to the *Motion* of your
Finger. Sometimes they were in
 a *Ring* like *Fairies*, then acting
 the *Haye* like *Furies* in a *Play*: but
 by the *balting* of some, *hopping*
 and *shrugging* of others, I could
 not

not but think of our play of the *Merry Beggars*, and in all my Life ne'er saw that *Dance* so naturally *Acted*; sometimes casting a Look at the *Carts*, you should see the *Hands wrung*, or the *Breast thumprt*, and a *Sigh* or two uttered; but still the *Dance* went on, and all signs of sorrow were suppress'd, as if't had been no less than *Treason* to *groan* in the hearing of their *Oppressors*.

I could no longer forbear acquainting the *French Gentleman* that was of our Company, that I thought this *Hardiness* of his Country People exceeded the *Apithie* that the *Stoicks* so much boasted of, and came the nearest imaginable to an *Insensibility*; and that I could not imagine it to be possible for People to be so absolutely forsaken of all *resentment* of *Misery*, as to be *Capering* to the
Noise

Noise of a Fiddle, when their Sons were knocking on the Head in the Wars, and the Caldeans were carrying away their Goods, unless, at the same time, they were incapable of the Impressions of Poverty and Pain.

To which he reply'd, Sir, you see the Levity of our Constitution; you may as well perswade a Monky to forbear his Gamballs, as a Monsieur to be out of Action; and if Magg be sullen, and give you a Grimace, when under Correction, give him but a Feather to play with, and he is presently out of his Melancholy, and at his Postures, and Anticks again: So fares it with the People of my Country; If his Father be a dying, his House on Fire, give a French-Man but a Pipe, or a Rattle, you shall have him presently on the Corant, or Minnevie, shaking off the Ague of Consideration; nothing

nothing is so *Terrible* to a *Vassal* of the *Great Lewis* as *thinking*; their *Miseries* are so many and *intolerable*, that should they take time to *think* on them, all *Paris* would be one *Mad-house*, and a *Universal* *distractiō* would appear over all the *Kingdom*.

So that this *privation* of *Sence* is not to be reconed amongst the *Infelicities* of this *Country*; and if they are *Pincht* till they can feel no longer, better so, then still *Endure* the *Torture*.

There is so much less *hope* of *Cure* for that, replied I; for that a *Stupefaction* that can't be *awakened* by *Couplings* and *Scarrifications* always *Terminates* in the *Extinction* of *Life*; and it is very *Unphysical* to suppose, the *Faculties* can *outlive* the *Senses*. And, perhaps, this may be one *Reason* why your *Country* have not yet *sought*

sought out for a Cure, because they have been Pincht till they can feel no longer : so that 'tis no wonder if Holland were sooner rid of the Ague Duke D'Alva cast her into, than France can hope to be of the Dead Palsie her great Tyrant hath brought upon her.

Sir, said the Gentleman, the Subjects of France are so habituated to a state of Slavery, that it is grown Natural to them, and they can no more want it, than a Turk can Opium ; and the Proverb is verified in them, which says, *That which is one Man's poison, is anothers meat.* They are not unlike the Wives of Sweden, of whom 'tis said, They do not think their Husbands love them, unless sometimes they take them under Correction ; or, like Spaniels, the poor Curs fawn on their Masters the more, for being beaten. This sort of Flee-
cing

ting is as *Natural* to them, as 'tis
 for *Sheep* to be *Shorn* at *Whitsun-*
tide: Twice a year their *Tax-*
gatherers come to *plume* them, as
 they do the *Geese* in the *Moors*;
 and tho, just whilst they are un-
 der hand, they *Squeale*, and make
 a *horrid noise*, yet the pain is soon
 over, and they *forget* that they
 were *stript*: You see how a *Fiddle*
 takes off the thoughts of *Trouble*,
 and the *submission* they pay to their
Tormentors; And by that time I
 have given you an account of the
 almost *infinite Number* of those
Caterpillars, you will perceive,
 that it is impossible for the *Sub-*
ject to call any thing *his own*, when
 he is not only to pay the *Charge*
 of the *Court*, and *Army*, but of the
 swarms of *Officers* that belong to
 the *Revenue*, who are so many,
 that the *Sallaries* and *Advantages*
 they make on *Distrains*, eats up
 above

above *Three* parts of *Four* of the *Imposition*; so that it was made appear in an *Assembly* at *Blois*, and that by a *President* of the Court of *Finances*, that out of *Six shillings* raised on the Subject, there hardly came *One Shilling* and *Six pence* to the *King's Coffers*.

The *Romans* foreseeing how very burthen some many Gatherers of Taxes must be to the Publick; ordered but *One* in a *Province*; but if the *Historians* of *France* may be Credited, they have not so few as a *Thousand* in one *Province*. The *Kings* of *France*, for the support of the *Grandeur* and *Expence* of the *Crown*, have in divers *Reigns* studied as many ways of Levying Money for their Purposes; principally, they have been reduced to *Eight Heads*, by which it may be discerned, what an *Immense* Treasure the Court hath

hath from time to time Collected
on the People.

1. The *Domain*, which is the
Settlement made on the *Crown*, and
descends with it.

2. *Conquest*, and here the pre-
sent Monarch hath out-done ma-
ny of his Predecessors, by raising
Contributions from the Subjects of
his Neighbours; tho not in the
Honourable way of *Arms*, but by
Trick and *Stratagem*.

3. *Pension*, when the Confede-
rates of the Prince have supplied
him with *Monies*, on account of
his *Assisting* them with his *Troops*,
or otherwise.

4. *Traffique*, or *Merchandize*,
and tho the Ancient Kings of *this*
and Your Country scorned this
way, as lesseneing the Dignity of
a Crowned Head: Yet hath this
Prince, and your late King so far
descended

descended from their Grandure, as to Trade by way of Commerce, for the enlarging of their Banks. which is not unlike *Vespasian's Bonus Odori Luni ex re qualiber.*

5. His *Impost*, or *Customs* upon all Commodities Inward or Outward; but these, tho' at sometimes they have been very Considerable, when the *Manufactures* of *France* were encouraged, and our Wines taken off, are now so reduced, that they will hardly pay the Sallaries of the Officers belonging to them.

6. His *Finances* Levied upon Estate of the Subject in Nature of a *Subsidy*. And tho' this were at first yielded of *Favour*, by consent of Parliament: yet is it now raised by *force*, and as Hereditary. This is only extorted from the *Flat Pais*, or Countryman.

7. The *Pailon* was an Addition to this, pretended to prevent the
Gens

Gens d'Arms from Free-quartering on the Villages, and tho' this be still paid, the Oppression ceaseth not.

8. The *Sala*, another Tax gathered upon all, except the Nobles, this was for payment of 50000 Foot, erected by *Lewis* the Eleventh, into Eight Legions of 6000 each; and from hence perhaps, cometh the name *Soldier*.

Besides these Exactions on the *Layity*, there are the *Decymes* or *Tenths*, which are Levy'd on the *Clergy*, and this seems to be the most *Equal Tax* that is raised by the *Crown*; for this at first comes to them without *Labour*, and is part of that *Bread* they pillage from others: and they will take care that it shall be barely a Tenth of their *Main* profits; whereas between *Them*, and the *Prince*,
 E the

the poor *Subject* hath not *One* part
 of *Ten* of what he labours for,
 but is all his *Life* a drudge to sup-
 port the *Arbitrariness* of the *Court*,
 and the *Avarice* of the *Clergy*. It
 is not the least worth *Observation*,
 that the present *Monarch*, not sa-
 tisfy'd with the *Tenths* of the
Church; hath likewise seized their
Altar-Plate for the carrying on
 his *Wars*, and 'tis to be hoped
 that in short time he may seize
 their *Lands* and *Altars* too; It be-
 ing but reasonable that those *Bou-*
reseu's, who have for so many
 Ages kindled the *flame* of *War*,
 should themselves suffer under it's
Consequent Calamities.

By those many *Exactions* on the
 poor *Subjects*, it is Evident what
Shifts a *Tyrannick Power* is forced
 to make use of to support its *Irre-*
gular Greatness, even to the *Con-*
sumption of its own *Vitals*: for as
 the

the strength of any Government is in the Riches of the People, the Empoverishing of them, is the destroying that strength.

To every one of these Eight Branches of the Revenue there are no less than six Treasurers, as many Comptrollers, besides Clerks, Collectors, and under Officers in every District or Hundred, and in some Provinces, Twelve, Sixteen, and Twenty of those Elections, or Bailiwicks. There are Reckoned One and Twenty Provinces, which are,

Paris,	Agen,	Dyon,
Rouen,	Tholous,	Chalons,
Caen,	Montpellier,	Amiens,
Nants,	Aix,	Orleance,
Toures,	Grenoble,	Soissons,
Burges,	Lyon,	Limogres
Poictiers,	Ryon,	Manlin.

21 In each of these are accounted no less than a *Thousand Officers* belonging to the *Revenue*, and in many *Fifteen hundred*, besides accidental *Messengers*, and *subalterne Servants*, most of these have numerous *Families* to maintain; so that it is hard to Number how many *Vultures* live upon the prey of their *Country*. There is hardly the most *Inferior Collector's* place amongst all these, but is bought of the *King*, and that at the Extravagant rate of *Twenty Years purchase*, the Return of which is an *Unknown* addition to the *King's Treasure*; but as they pay so dear for their *Tormentors* places, there is no doubt but they have as *Indirect* ways of *Repairing* themselves, and *advancing* their *Purchase Money* on the *Publick*.

But how little this doth Comport with the *Deity* the *Great*
Levis

Lewis pretends to, to descend to those *Mean* and *Contemptible Methods* of gratifying his Ambition? How very much must it lessen the grandeur of this mighty Figure, to consider, that the *Terror* of his *Arms*, the *Pomps* of his *Versaille*, his *Statues* and *Triumphal Arches*, should all be raised out of the spoils of his own People? This then, as I said at first, is another Cause of the Poverty of *France*, and will not fail to *Terminate* in the Ruine of its Monarch.

Another Infallible way to bring this *Kingdom* to Ruine, is the *Army* which for many Ages hath been a *standing Charge* to the Nation. In former times there were but an *Hundred* Gentlemen of his Guard, which soon grew to *Two Hundred*, they are now consisting of *Thousands*, at the King's pleasure; There were part of them

Scots, part *French*, and part *Swiss*; the *Scots* were distinguished by *white Coats* powdered with *Silver plates*, and the *King's device* thereon: The *French* wore the *King's Colour*, these were *Horse*; the *Swiss* wore *Coats of party colour'd Gloath* of their own *Country fashion*: The *Guard de Corps* is compounded of these several *Nations*, amongst whom the *Scots* have great *Privileges*, on account of some signal *Service* in a *Battle*, where they saved one of their *Kings*.

As the *Grand Seignior* hath his *Tymariotts*, to whom, after a *Conquest*, he divideth several *portions of Lands*, to be *Enjoyed Tax-Free*, on *Consideration* that they serve him *Personally* in his *Wars*. On the same account have the *Kings of France* granted to their *Subjects* many *Peoffs* or *Tenures*

Termes of Land, which formerly before *Charlemain*, were only for *Life*; but are since made *Hereditary*. The *Nobles* hold of the *King* in *Haut Justice*, their *Vassals* of them in *Bass Justice*: That is the *seigneur* holds in *Inheritance*, the *Gentleman* that is under him, but for *Term of Life*. The *Nobles* are bound to follow and serve the *King*, and the others to attend their *Nobles*; and these are severally obliged to furnish *Horse, Man, and Arms*, proportionable to the value of their *Feofs*: He whose *Feoff* amounted to 60 *l. per annum Sterling*, was bound to find one *Horseman*, and so of the rest. These *Enfeoffments* properly constitute the *Arere-Ban* of *France*, and these this *Monarch* is now compelled to raise, besides the *Posse* of his *Army* to secure him

from the Just Invasion of his Neighbours.

This state of the *Arereban* hath been lost for a long time, some being forced to sell their *Feoffs*, and above one *Third* have been given to the *Church*, who as one saith *Recites. all*, and parts with *None*; so that the *Nobility* and *Gentry* make up a great part of the *Gens d' Arms*; and yet such is the Necessity of our *Monarch*, that he is forced to make an *Arereban* of all that are able to bear *Arms*.

In the time of *Francis* the first, there were Eight *Legionaries* instituted, after the manner of the *Romans*; one of *Normandy*, of *Bretaigne*, *Picardy*, *Burgundy*, *Champaigne*, *Dauphine*, *Lyonois*, and *Languedoc*, each of these *Legions* contained six Thousand, and amounted

amounted to a force not unlike your Militia in *England*; but within Eighteen years after they were Casted, these Legions were changed into Regiments, of *Normandy, Picardy, &c.* as at this day; but since it hath been the Mode to Trade in Arms, our Troops have been Multiplied without Standard or Measure, and instead of being Named after the *French Provinces*, they may be called the Regiment of *Luxemburgh*, the Regiment of *Trier*, of *Mentz*, of the *Palatinate*, of *Strasburgh*, and *Alsace*, and indeed of *Bon*, or any place where they have had footing; for in truth *France* hath, of late, taken such measures, that as it is related of *Cesar*, that he burnt the Country in *Helvetia* because the Inhabitants should fight for some Country not Ruinated; or as the *Tartars* when

E 5

they

they have devoured one Region, remove their Colonies to another: so the *Lègions* of the Potent *Lo-vis*, having Ravaged their Native Territories, like the *Locusts* of Egypt, cover the Neighbour Countries, and prey upon the *Fruites* of their Industry.

This discourse brought us to a place of Baiting, where we thought fit to rest our selves at Noon, and after some repose, pursued our Journey to *Paris*.

C H A P.

CHAP. V.

*Of the City of Paris, and what was
observable there.*

ABout Seven in the Evening,
we arrived at the great
Metropolis of this Kingdom, *Paris*,
though she boasts to be as large
as old Rome, hath neither the Pri-
viledges, nor the Bravery of that
Heroick People. But their Ostenta-
tion in comparing themselves with
that famous Republick, is much of
a piece with the rest of their *Rha-
domontades*; they come as short
of that, as of their *Nisus Con-
quests*, which every later Poet con-
tradicts and baffles. Here it was
we lost the Company of that Gen-
tleman, who had given us the
foregoing Accounts of their
Church,

Church, Gentry, Tax-Gatherers,
and *Army*; and it was our Mis-
fortune never to see him but once
after.

The first Night we Lodged at
our Inn, where our Entertainment
differed but little from what we
met with at *Amiens*, only the Room
had not so much the *Hautgust* of
the *Dragoons*; but the *Kitchen*,
the *Sauces*, the *Swoop*, and *Grilletts*,
stunk so powerfully of *Onions* and
Garlick, as if we had been in *E-*
gypt: For my share, I thought it
resembled the *House of Bondage* in
so many respects, that if some of
the *Old Israelites* were to leave
their *Sepulchres* for a time, and
take a Turn or two here, they
would dread their *Old Tyrants*
and *Task-Masters*, and their Cry
would be as in the *Days of Pha-*
raoh. The *Palace* their *King*
creak'd with *Priests* worse than
Frogs:

Frogs: The *Hugonots*, like *Bond-slaves*, were to make *Brick* without *Straw*; and the *Dragoons*, like *Task-Masters*, insulted and cudgel'd them to their *Drudgery*: The *Tax-Gatherers*, and *Gabellers*, like *Löcsts*, covered the *Earth*. Their *Temples* too were filled with *Idols*, like those of *Memphis*. *England* and *Holland* were the *Goshens* for the poor *Refugies* to retire to; and who knows but their *Pharaoh* and his *Host*, may one Day be overwhelmed in that *Red Sea of Blood*, which by *their means* hath overflown those parts of *Europe*? Such *Contemplations* took up my *Thoughts* the first Night, and the next Day we took our *Lodging* at a private *House*, where we continued during our abode in that *City*.

Paris is divided by the *River* into three parts, the middlemost of which

which is an *Island* ; That part toward *St. Dennis* is called the *Burg*, that towards *St. Germain's*, the *University*, and the midst, the *Ville*, or *City*. The *Latines* called it *Lutetia*, à *Luto* ; the *Streets* being very *Dirty* ; they are generally but *narrow* ; The *Buildings* *high*, and *uniform*, which makes a fine show, but their *Lodgings* and *Furnitures* are much short of ours in *London*. Their *Shops* are dark, and nothing so well lined as those in *England* ; there were not such *Heaps* of *Variety*, such *Rich Profusions* of all sorts ; but their *Wares* generally *course* of the kind, which argues want of *Money*. You shall see here the finer sort of People flanting it in *Tawdry Gause*, or *Colbertine*, a parcel of *course* staring *Ribbons* ; but *Ten* of their *Holy-day Habits* shall not amount to what a *Citizens Wife* of *London* wears

(87)
wears on her Head every Day.

You cannot send your Footman to call a *Coach* in every Street, but he must go a Mile, or more, to some *wide place*, such as *Smithfield*, where are appointed *Strands* for them, and it may be, find none in two or three places; then you must foot it last. It is usual here for those of the better sort, to hire a *Coach*, *Horses* and *Furniture* for a Day, or a Week; and you may hire a *Livery* for *Coachman* and *Footman*, which the *Broaker* shall *retake*, when you think fit to *dismiss* your *Equipage*. This Train is to be let for *Twenty Shillings* a Day; and looks the most like a piece of French Greatness, when the Son of a *Decay'd Noble* or *Gent.* that hath rak'd up Two or Three Hundred Crowns, shall look as great in the Streets of *Paris*, as if he spent Two or Three Thousand

land Pounds a Year : But upon
Consumption of the Fund, the Re-
tinue is discharged, and Begar Mon-
sieur returns to his decay'd Mansion,
his Bouger of a tatter'd Footboy, and
his Shaberon Retrait, 'till he can get
a place in the Kings Guards or the
Army; and then comes to Grim-
mace, and cock Cordebeck like the
Nephew of Marshal Turenne, or a
Varlet turn'd Courtier.

There are several great Piles of
Building about the City, which
look Noble and Ornamental; as
the Gates of St. Anthony, St. Mi-
chael, St. Jaques, and others; there
is too, an old Castelet, said to be
built by Jul. the Apost. which pre-
sents no more like the Tower of
London, than a Tooth-drawer to A-
lexander the Great. The Universi-
ty Founded by Charlemaine, where
you have a Confusion of Colleges,
and Grammar-Schools; Writing-
Boys,

Boys, and Mathematicians, Doctors and Pedagogues, all sorts of *Litterature*, shuffled together, from the *Primmer* to the *Talmud*; from the *Whipping-School* to the *Convocation-House*. You see not here those *Regular Buildings*, and *Oeconomies* as in *Oxford* or *Cambridge*, no *Bodley's Libraries*, no *Sheldon's Theatres*: Not that *Pomp and Order*, not that *Discipline and Uniformity*, not that *Neatness and Convenience* as in the *Universities of England*, which for *Nobleness and Beauty of Foundation*, besides the foregoing *Excellencies*, justly claim the precedence of all other *Academies* of the World.

Their great *Church of Nostre Dame*, said to be the finest in all *France*, falls short of many of *Ours*, The *Minster at York*, the *Cathedrals of Canterbury, Winchester, Sarum, Wells, Westminster-Abby*,

Abby, far exceeds it in many re-
 spects; divers of Ours being much
Antienter, and more *Superb*. The
Town-house, or *Guild-hall* was built
 by *Francis the First*, and is justly
 esteemed one of the Glories of *Pa-*
ris, tho' the *Hall*, or *Great Room*
 be nothing so *Noble* and *Magnifi-*
cent as that in *London*; this was
 Dedicated to the calling of their
Common-Council and Government
 of the *City* in the year 1533. and
 over the Gate is Inscrīb'd *S. P. E. P.*
 The *Senate* and *People* of *Paris*, in
 imitation of the *S. P. Q. R.* in
 old *Rome*, or our *S. P. Q. L.* at
London; and put me in mind of
 the *Gaol* at *Newgate*, where the
 Emblem of *Liberty* is set over the
Arch, and the poor wretches are in
Fetters within: And, really, it is
 not much unlike the *State* we
 were reduced to in the *late Reign*,
 when an *S. P. Q. L.* stood over
 the

the *Gates* and *Conduits*, when in the mean time the *Franchises*, and *Charter* of the *City* were seized and invaded.

There is a fair *Hospital* built by *Antonie Prat*, *Chancelor* of *Paris* in the Reign of *Francis* the *First*. And a *Palace* built by *Philip le Bel*, in the year 1283. and named *Palace de Paris*. This is now converted into *Courts* of *Judicature*, like our old *Palace* at *Westminster*, and here are a sort of *Exchange Shops*, like those in the *Hospital* in *Smithfield*, but they look more like *Pedlars* than those with us; besides, here are the *Seven Chambers* of *Parliament*, whereof that of the *Great Chamber* of *Paris*, and the *Chamber* of *Accompts*, are very finely Adorned. All the *Buildings* of the *City* are generally of *Stone*, except *Pont N. Dame*, or *Our Ladies Bridge*, which is of *Brick*

Brisk, Uniform, and as their *Cheapside*; but that a *Whore* hath lately got the Upper hand of Our *Lady*: for that to the perpetual Infamy of *Charles the Second*, he loaded his *Fade Portsmouth* with English Treasure enough to build the best street in *Paris*, which is called by her Name.

Besides these, the great *Palace* of the *Louvre* at the West is very *pompous* and *Monarch-like*, presenting it self with a *Majestick Beauty*, it was of a *Quadrangular* form, very *Ancient*, and *Prison-like*, but pulled down by *Francis the First*, who raised many famous Buildings, and finished by *Henry the Second* who hath caused an *Inscription* to remember it. But that *vast* and mighty *Addition* and *Gallery*, of more than a *quarter* of a *mile* in length built by the present *King*, is a *work*,
not

not unlike the *Babel Empire* he is building, too great to be perfected. However it may not be amiss to present the Reader with a passage of his *vain glory*, which he caused to be Inscribed thereon, and is so near of kin to some of his latter *Inscriptions* which I shall take occasion to mention ; that it doth not a little discover the *vanity* of his disposition. It is written upon the great Front.

*Non Orbis Gentem, non Urbem
Gens habet ulla,
Urbs 've Domum, Dominum,
vel Domus ulla, Parem.*

Paraphrased thus,
Louvre be proud ! Thou all the
World dost brave,
For Louis is thy Lord, and
France his fetter'd Slave.
No Town can Match this House,
nor Newgate such a Kn—

Not

Not unlike this was that famous *Rhodomontade* sent to a late King of England upon his *Invasion* into *Holland* ~~for~~ Years since, which with much more Modesty he might have ~~retracted~~ upon his being so soon repelled from his pretended Conquests, by the Ever-Victorious Prince of Orange, now the most Auspicious King of England, who no sooner appeared in the head of *Fifteen Thousand men*, but the Mighty *Louis's* Army precipitated with such haste out of the *Netherlands*, that they had not time to leave the marks of their Conquest, I mean the *Towns* reduced to *Ashes*. But that piece of Ostentation was this,

*Una Dies Lotheros, Burgundos
Hebdomas una,*

*Una Domus Barravos Luna:
Quid annus Aget?*

Said

Said to be thus Englished by the
Witty E. of R.

Lorrain he stole, by Fraud he
got Burgundy,
Holland he bought, in faith he'll
pay for't one day.

And now we are come amongst
the *Triumphs* of this *Blustering*
Conqueror that won'd be, it may
not be amiss to insert the Copy of
a Letter sent from Paris the Se-
cond of April, 1686. upon the
Erecting one of his Statues.

Paris, April 2. 1686.

THE Ordinary Post had not
time to make a Recital of the
particulars of the Fire-works which
the Provost of Merchants, and the
Sheriffs of this City caused to be
made before the Town-House, upon
Occasion

Occasion of the Statue, which Monsieur the Duke of Feuilleade hath caused to be Erected in the place of Victory.

The Declaration of this Fire, was of Ionique Order. The Frize was Adorned with Trophies, Palms, and Laurells, the Emblems of Victory, Virtue, and Courage. Above the board-work there was a kind of Pedestal adorned upon each Front with two Attic Pilasters that carried a Flat bend, in which were seen Inscriptions that best agreed to the Glorious Successes of the Life of his Majesty.

The first Line of Inscription contained these words, *Ludovico Magno, Victori perpetuo*: To Lewis the Great, always Victorious.

One of the Fronts represented the Peace which the King had granted to his Enemies at a time when

when he could have advanced his Conquests; and the *Inscription* upon this Occasion, and the *Signification* was this: *Quod ubique Victor, seipsum Pace concessa Vicit.* That being in all places Victorious, He Conquered Himself by granting Peace. The *Device* upon the same Subject was *Two Suns Occasioning Clouds*, who had underneath a *Ship at Anchor*, her *Sails full*; with this *Motto*, *Vincendo hæc Otia Fecit*: By dispelling them he gave this *Tranquillity*.

The *Inscription* and *Device* of the *Second Front* was agreeable to the *Conversion* of the *Protestants* under the name of *Hereticks*. The words of the *Inscription*, and *Signification* were these: *Quod Heresim à Regibus septem frustra taceffi tam profligavit*: That he subdued a *Heresy*, in vain Attempted by *Seven Princes*. These Seven

F Princes

Princes were *Francis the First, Henry the Second, Francis the Second, Charles the Ninth, Henry the Third, Henry the Fourth, and Lewis the Thirteenth.* The Device that answered this *Inscription*, was a *Hydra*, with these words, *Nec tantum Alcides potuit. Hercules* himself could not do any thing so great.

The Third Front represented the *Victory* which the King got, as won from the *Algerines*, and the *Liberty* which he procured the *Christian Slaves* taken under the Banner of France. The words of the *Inscription* were these, *Quod Domitis in Affrica Barbaris, suis in Libertatem Afferuit; That having Overcome the Barbarians in Affrica, he restored his own to Liberty.* The Device underneath was, a *Petard* put to the Gates of a Prison, with these words, *Ni pateant, Unless they Open.* The

The Fourth Front expressed the shooting of *Bombs* into the City of *Genoa*, and the submission of that *Republick*; with this Inscription, *Genuensibus Igne mulctatis, ad obsequium Coactis*; The *Genoefes* being punished with Fire; are Constrained to a Submission. And the Device upon this Subject was, Two *Lyons* tyed to a Cart, with these words, *Et juga Norunt*, They have known the Yoke.

This day was very *Glorious* for *Monsieur Fenillade*, as being without Example, that a particular Lord should undertake to make at his own charge so vast an Expence as this, which he hath done for the *Statue*, and for the *Feast*, which he hath made, since it was never known that there was such an *Illustrious Solemnity* upon the like Occasion. We cannot Express the Expence the Duke hath

been at; The Ribbons of Gold and Silver that were upon the *Harness* of his *Horse*, cost a *Thousand Crowns*, by which, a guess may be given of the rest.

It is not at all improbable, that if *Monsieur Feuillade* had foreseen the Necessity his Great Master should be reduced to, and that not only the *Church-Plate*, but his *Household-Plate* must go to *wrack*; That which was so weakly thrown away upon a piece of *Vain-glorious Ostentation*, might have served now to have *endeavour'd* those *Conquests* that were then so proudly Boasted of. 'Tis hardly to be imagined, at how great Charge the Great *Louis* hath been to insinuate the Notion of *Victory* into the Heads of his poor deluded Subjects; there hath hardly a Year past without somewhat of this kind. It was about the Year

Seventy

seventy two, he caused a *Triumphal Statue* to be erected, with an *Inscription*, importing, that

Louis the Great, the always August and Victorious Emperor of the French, having Conquered the Germans, Beaten the Dutch, Subdued the Spaniard, and Overcome the English; Secure in His Own Fortune; Caused that Monument to be Set up to the Eternal Memory thereof.

The *Roman Emperors* used to set up the Marks of their Conquests in the Country, or City Conquered, as the many Remaining *Monuments*, and *Inscriptions* of theirs in *Gaul, Spain, Britain, and Flanders*, witness, they had not their *Trophies* confined to the Wall of their own City: But the *Mighty Louis* hath a more Modern way of *Publishing*

his *Victories* in the Streets of his own *Paris*; as a certain *late King* set up his *own Statue* in the *Court* of his *Palace*, at his *proper Charge*, not having *Obliged* his *Subjects* to Honour his *Memory* with any such *Acknowledgments*. These are pretty *Artifices* to set the *Credulous* and *Admiring Vulgar* at Gaze, and to raise in them an Opinion of the great *Prowess* of their *daring Monarch*, who *valiantly* keeps himself *entrencht* within the Walls of his *Versailles*.

But before we go off from this discourse of *Inscriptions*, perhaps it may not be taken ill, if the Reader be presented with that which was written over the Gate of the Palace at *Bon*, before *Cardinal Furstenburgh*, in imitation of the *Valour* of his Great Master, ran out of it, which here follows, rendred into *English*.

Qui

*Qui Transis viator sta, Lege, per-
pende, nam Bona habitat Insig-
nis*

Cardinalis sine Titulo.

Archiepiscopus sine Palio.

S. R. J. Elector sine placito.

Episcopus sine Teritorio.

Prepositus sine Templo.

Decanus sine Capitulo.

Canonicus sine Choro.

Sacerdos sine Breviario.

Catholicus sine Rosario.

Peccator sine Confessario.

Princeps sine Subdito.

Comes sine Dominio.

Miles sine Gladio.

Maritus sine Matrimonio.

Beatus sine Cælorum gaudio.

O Passenger that goest this way,
Stop, Read, and Consider, for
at Bon there lives a Great
Cardinal without a Title.

Arch-bishop without a Pall.
 An Elector of the Empire without
 a Writ.
 A Bishop without a Diocess.
 A Prelate without a Church.
 A Dean without a Chapter.
 A Canon without a Quire.
 A Priest without a Mass-Book.
 A Catholick without his Beads.
 A Sinner without a Confessor.
 A Prince without a Subject.
 An Earl without an Earldom.
 A Soldier without a Sword.
 A Husband without Wedlock.
 A Saint without a Heaven.

And may not such a sort of Re-
 verse be written upon all the pre-
 tended Triumphs of *Louis* the
Fourteenth? Hath he not Arroga-
 ted to himself a *Stile* without a
Title, a *Conquest* without a *Battle*,
 and a *Laurel* without a *Victory*?
 How very *Naked* must *Louis le*
Grand

Grand appear, and how *Contem-
ptible*, when each of the *Confede-
rate Princes* shall *Retake* his own
Feather? How miserably will the
Sham-Conqueror look, when he
shall be *Unplumed* of his *Borrow-
ed Titles*?

The *Seine* on which this *City* is
built, brings abundance of small
Vessels with *Country-Commodi-
ties*, such as *Wood*, *Coal*, *Turff*,
and the like, but cannot bring any
Boats of *Burthen*, no *Ships*, as at
the *Custom-house* of *London*, or the
Streets of *Amsterdam*: And this
is the Reason why in *Paris* there
are no such stately Houses for
Merchants, as may vye for Splen-
dor with the Palaces of Nobles;
no such *Burse* as the *Royal Ex-
change* for the Resort of *Merchants*
and *Factors* from all parts of the
World. No such *Mercate* as at
Leaden-hall, where more great
F 5 Beefs,

(100)
Beefs, Mutton, Veal, Fowls of all
fort, *Fish* in great abundance, and
whatever else may furnish the
Table of a Prince ; I say, more of
those Excellent Noble Provisions
are Sold in that one Mercate of
London in one Day, than in *Paris*
in Two Months time ; tho' there
be many such Mercats in *London*
every day : And it shall be allow-
ed, that the number of Inhabi-
tants be equal, or rather more in
Paris : But when the different way
of Living comes to be considered ;
How very penuriously they in
France live, to what they do in
London ; what Consumption of
all that is *Opulent, Noble* and great
in the *One*, and how very little,
besides *Cabbage, Onions, Potatoes,*
Sallads, and a little *Course Meat,*
makes a *Dinner* in the *Other* ; you
will find the Ballance to incline to
my side. Where in *France* are the
Tables

Tables Loaded with such *Variety* of *Provisions*, as in *London*? In *Paris*, *Swoop*, *Bacon*, *Pork* & *Potage*, with a *Fricasie* of *Frogs*, make half their *Dyet*, and yet they make but one *Meal* a day, and that is from *Morning* until *Night*, still they cram, and cry *Mange, Mange, Monsieur*, 'till they are as *Mangy* as *Cootes* with their *Nasty* feeding, or *somewhat* else: They say the *Jews* are to be known from any other *Nation* by a *Rank* and *fetid* smell that always haunts them ; but this is evident, a *Frenchman* may be smelt by the *belching* of his *Swoop*, as easily as a *Crow* finds *Carrion*. One *Evening* I came home to my *Lodging* and my *Landlady* was making ready somewhat for *Supper* ; she no sooner saw me, but presently she came and claspt both her *Arms* about my *Neck*, with a *Franches* as if she had been my *Sister* ; she gave

gave me a strong Buss, which with the *hugg* I mention'd, left such an Odour about my Face and Lining, that it could not be got off in two or three days. This must not be lookt upon as an Indecency, no, no, it is a *la mode de Paris*, and a *Civility* so very becoming, that it were down-right want of *breeding* to boggle at it.

One day I had the Curiosity to go to one of their Churches, and it was upon a very Solemn Occasion, no less than the *Observation* of the *Saints* day to which the *Foundation* was *Dedicated*; so that the *Shew* was very Extraordinary; there was a *Procession* made up of so many *Orders* and sorts of People, as if the *Builders* of *Babel* had assembled themselves to Solemnize the *Festival*; The *Jabber* and *Gaggle* of the *Croud* made such a Confused Noise and Clamour as would.

would deafen a *Miller*; some were upon their *Knees*, others running over them; some were knockt on the head because they paid not *Reverence* enough to the *Idols*; some prostrated themselves on the ground in profound *Devotion* to the *Holy Saint*, which was a piece of *Timber painted*, and drest up like a *Bartholomew-Baby*, or rather like a Young Spark at a *Masquerade*; some thumpt their *Breasts* and wrung their *Hands*, *Implo- ring* the *Saint's Intercession* for themselves, others for their *Hus- bands* and *Relations* in the *Wars*. The Women held up their *Infants* to receive his *Benediction*: Before him march'd several *Troops* of *Eryars* of all Orders, some with *Ropes* and *Beads*, some with *Cros- ses* of divers sorts, they Sang *Bal- lads* and *Catches*, in praise of the *Saint*, and between each Order

were

were people carrying *Torches* and *Flambeaux*, which put me in mind of the *Athenian*, that went with a *Candle* at *Noon* to search for a *Wise Man*. In the Rear of them came two *Pontificals*, with *Perfuming Pots* in their hands, whose *Incense* cast a *Cloud* of *Aromatick* thro' the *Street*, and after them a pair of *Fryars* which sprinkled the *Holy-Water* amongst the *Croud*; then came a parcel of *Doctors* in their *Formalities*, and after them the *Saint* carried in a *Chair* under a *Canopy*, supported by many *People*; These were followed by more *Torches*, and another *Canopy*, under which was the *Host* carried by a *Prelate* in great pomp. I went with the *Croud* till we came to the *Church* of *St. Anthony*, who by that, I perceived was the *Saint* of the *day*. The *Church* was but an *Ordinary Building*

Building, compared with ours in London, but it was fill'd with *illuminations*, as if 't had been a *Lottery-Room* at a Fair: The *Saint* was set in the *Nitch*, which was his usual Residence, and a *High-Mass* was Celebrated: It happen'd I was got by one of their *Fryars*, with whom, indeed, the Room was near fill'd; I thought I saw a *Hog* cut in Stone near the place where the *Saint* stood, and enquired of the Father what the meaning of that might be? At which, turning to me, he replied, Sir, I perceive you are Ignorant of the great *Virtue* of *St. Anthony*, and therefore to encourage your *Devotion*, I will tell you what it means: This *Holy Man* in time of his *Mortality* kept a *Herd* of *Swine*; not that he was *Judicially* Condemn'd to it, like the *Prodigal* that eat Husks with them; but

but *Saint Tony* did it out of pure *Charity* to keep the *Devils* out of them, who have always had a great hankering after *Swines Flesh*; and the particular care he had of those *Creatures* was such, that to this day, if the people find their *Hogs* to be sick, or out of order, if the *Measles*, the *Murrain*, or any thing else troubles them; if they bring but *four Souse* for a *Mass* to be said to *Saint Anthony*, the *Pigs* are presently well again, and that is the reason of the *Hog* you see there.

Father, said I, you have well Informed me; but methinks *four Souse* is Dog-cheap for a *Mass*, and I wonder the price was set so low? O! Sir, replied he, If you consider the many *Millions* of those *Creatures* with which this *Country* swarms, it will not appear to be small Sum, for sometimes, we
have

have *three* or *four* hundred *Masses* of that *kind* to be said in a *day*, but then I must tell you, we make one *Mass* to serve for a *hundred* or *six score* of them, and that is pretty *reasonable*. But *Father*, said I, is *Saint Anthony* never sought to but for *Pigs*? Yes Sir, replied he, for *many things*, and this day, by order of *Our General*, we are to *Implore* his *favour* for the *Dolphin*, in his *Expedition* into *Germany*. What then, said I, doth the same *Saint* serve for *Pigs* and *Princes*? *Wie, Wie*, quoth the *Father*, for any thing at times, tho' his *particular Province* is the *Swine*.

There were abundance of other *Saints*, both *Male* and *Female*, about the *Church*, but they were so *dress'd* up, so *dignified*, and *distinguished*, that if their own *Parents* were there, they could not
know

know them : There was Saint. *Winnefryd* in a *Commode*, with a *Lac'd Scarff* on, and a *Visor* in her hand, as if she were going to *Confession* ; Saint *Denis*, with a *Lac'd Hat* button'd up on one side, an *Embroidered Coat*, and a Gold and Silver fring'd *Sash*, like a Captain of the *Guards* ; you could not have Imagined that he had ever been *Groom* of the *Stables* to Saint *George*, no more than King *Pepin* or *John* of *Ghent*. Tir'd with this sort of *Devotion*, I went home to my *Lodging*, and spent but three or four days more in *Paris*, and then took our Journey to *Versailles*.

C H A P. VI.

Of the Court at Versailles.

AS heretofore the *Escorial* of Spain was thought to be one of the Noblest Palaces in Europe, so now the *Castle* or *Palace* of *Versailles* is that which is the most talk'd of, and may well be reckoned to Exceed all others, for *Scituation*, *Uniformity*, and *Pomp* of *Building*: The access to it is over a specious Plain, that yields a prospect of a very *Magnificent Front* every way. It would fill a large Volume to describe the *Exquisite Curiosity* of the *Gardens* and *Water-works*, with which it is surrounded for the *Compass* of some *Miles*. The *Fountains* and *Conveyances* for *Water* are almost

most Innumerable, you have a Walk of a very great length, under an *Arch* of Water ; so contrived that the *Pipes* playing over you from each side, in their Cadence compose a *Regular* piece of *Arch-work* ; there are *Channels* of each side that receive the Water, on the brink of which stand *Cupids* and *Satyrs*, with other divertive figures pissing into the *Stream*. The *Basins*, *Anticks*, and *Devices* of several sorts that are spouting with *Water* in every Quarter, are not to be reckoned ; in some you have the *Water* rising up in many small *Lines*, and then falling off in *bended* forms like the figure of a *Palm-Tree* ; in others a *Hercules* with his Club seeming to Maul a *Hydra*, out of whose *Head* spout so many streams of *Water* like *Blond* : The wits of *Artists* and *Carvers* have been employed to devise

vise all Imaginable kinds of *Figures* and *Postures* for disporting with the *Fluid Element*. There are vast Numbers of *Ponds* for all sorts of *Fish* and strange *Water-Fowl*, many *Canals* in some of which are *Indian Canoes* and *Boats* of Curious Contrivance; in some of them you may see a *Ship* under Sail in all it's *pomp* and *splendor*, with the *Train* and *Bravery* of a *Man of War*; there are several of these, that sometimes make a diversion in Imitation of a *Sea-Fight*. I have heard a Nobleman affirm, that some of the *Water-works* at *Versailles* cannot be play'd under the charge of two Hundred pounds a time.

To recount to you the Walks of *Orange-Trees*, *Mirtles*, the *Grotto's* and infinite *Curiosities* of these *Gardens*, would be too much for the little room I have left; there

is nothing wanting that may recommend them to exceed all of the kind in the Universe. The Expence the *King* hath been at, to make his *Garden* like a *Paradise*, hath brought *France* to a *Desert*, and to support the *Pomp* of his *Extravagance*, and *Luxury*, hath *Louis le Grand* reduced his *Country* to the *Stile* of *Petit France*.

The *Soldiers* of the *Foot-guards*, which may consist of *Two* or *Three thousand* each *Parade*, lye basking on the *Ground* in the *Areas*, round the *Palace*, like so many *Dogs* in the *Sun* around a *Ken-
nel*, they had not the *Umbrage* of *Sheds* or *Tents* to shelter them from the weather, but were exposed to all the *Inconveniencies* of *Wet*, *Dust* and *Heat*, and seemed to be very *Louzy*, and almost *Starved*; which, I apprehend, did not *Comport*, or bear any agreeable

ble Figure suitable to the *Grandeur* of the *Monarch* on whom they attended. There were some *Callasses*, and *Coaches* of the *Kings* *Servants* in waiting, but not a *Chair*, *Chariot*, or *Coach* of any *Foreign Minister*, nor above Two of the *Nobles* of that *Country*: the reason whereof easily occur'd, for that the *Emperor* of *Germany*, and all the *Kings*, *Princes* and *States* of the *Confederacy*, had recalled their *Ambassadors* and *Residents* from thence: And the *Nobles* of his own *Country*, except some few *Courtiers*, were compelled to serve in the *War*, or so *Reduced*, as hath been hinted, that they could not make an *Equipage* to appear at *Court*.

The *Building* is very splendid, and makes a *Glorious Figure* on the *Outside*, because of the great *Uniformity* of the *Windows*, *Cornishes*,
and

and Roofings; the extraordinary Guildings make it shine like the Feigned Palace of the Sun; and some Parasites have not stuck to stile it, the Golden Palace of Versailles. But a very Uncourtly passage it was of one that had discharged his Posteriors against a White Wall there; and observing the Oaker to have spatter'd somewhat in the resemblance of Beams, or Rays, took the boldness to write under it, *Nec pluribus Impar*; which being the Motto the Great Louis gives with his Device, being the Sun displayed in his Glory, could not but be resented as a great Indignity to the Monarch. But why the French King should assume to himself the Resemblance of that Glorious Planet, cannot but be surprizing to those that consider their very contrary Qualities, since the one is the Cherisher, and Revi-
ver

giver of the Creation, the other the Burner and destroyer of the Universe, and bears a nearer likeness to Phaeton, than Phœbus.

Notwithstanding all this, the more *Considerate* and *Skilful* in the business of *Architect*, conclude there is a great *Indecency* in raising so many Rooms over one another as are seen in this wonderful *Castle*, which are observed to be six *Stories* high in many places of it, and looks more like a *Town-house* than the *Palace* of an *Emperour*; within are many *Apartments*, *Galleries*, and *Rooms of State*, but they are so much like one the other, that it is difficult for one that is not much there, to distinguish one Room from another, & seems as if one were still in the *same place*; whereas a *Variety* in the *Figure* and *Furniture* within doors, renders a house no less pleasant than the *Charming diver-*
sity

sey of the *Objects* which so much delight the Eye without.

There were two or three sorts of *Yeomen* of his *Guards* in different *Habits*, which took up as many Rooms; some of them lookt as *Fell* as the *Dragon* which kept the *Hesperian Garden*; others could not hide their *Natural French* *Meine*, but were all *Mimick* and *Posture*, like so many *Scaramouches* or *Harlequins*. This sort of *Aspect* continued in the *Inner Rooms*, in some of which were *Officers* of the *Guards*, and some that belonged to the *Army*, so loud and clamorous in discourse, so full of *Motion* and *Grimace*, as if they had been on the *Walks* at the *Town-house* in *Paris*, where it's usual to observe their better sort of *Merchants* cocking their *Hats*, looking full of *business* and *hurry*, walking so fast as if they were in quest of a *Midwife*, or some *Thieves* that had pil-

pillaged the House: in this sort of posture the People in every Room presented at *Versailles*; sometimes the hands were a little *Extended*, and the Eyes fixed with such *intention* on the ground, as if they were going to do the *Somerset* forward; another brushing up his *Whiskers*, and looking as fierce as *Amadis de Gall*, some pointing to the *Cieling*, others to the *Floor*, with so many *Shruggs* and *Apish* Gestures as *Rag* shall make you in a *Musick-house*: Even the great *Confidants*, *Monsieur Colbert*, and *Monsieur Louvois*, when they deigned to speak to any one as they past by, did it with so much *Action* and *Finger-talk*, as if they were *Conversing* with the *Deaf*, and were to make them understand by *Signs*, or as if there were such a defect in their *Language*, that notwithstanding the *Multitude* of words they use, they were

forced to Intimate much of their meaning by *Shruggs*, *Nodds*, and *digito-monstrations*.

We were admitted to see the *Bed-Chamber*, the *Furniture* of which was doubtless of a *prodigious Value*, but there were so many *China Cups*, *Pots* and *Basons*, which we were told were presented by the *King of Siam*, when he sent his Sons the *Princes* of that Country to School to the *French Court* to Learn *Religion* and *Morals*; that I could not but fancy the *King's Lodging* lookt like an *Apothecaries Shop*, with so many *Gally-Pots* about it; and doubtless some of them might be lined with the *Fundamental Oynment de Conseruando Ano*.

We were called away from looking any further into that *Apartment*, that we might see the *King's Dinner* served in; I could not discern above three *dishes* of *Meat*

Meat, whereof one was *Venison*, the other *Fowl*, the rest were about a dozen *Plates* of *Swoops*, *Raguffs*, and *Quelque Choses*: He was surrounded with a great many *Officers*, and a *Guard* of *Partizans*, had the most *Cozening Face*, as was said of *James* the first, of any *Mortal*; who could imagine that a *Soul* so *Barbarous*, *False*, and *Cruel*, could *Inhabit* in a *Body* grac'd with a *Meine* and *Presence* so *Lovely* and full of *Attraction*; is *Person* and *Gesture* seem'd very *Obliging*, nor wanted any thing that might speak him *Majestick*, and *Pleasant*, but when the *Inhumane Butcheries*, *devastations*, and *Cruelties* of his *Actions* were reflected on, and that a *Temper* so *Diabolical* should *Inhabit* a form so *Angelical*; what could be Imagin'd, but that he must be of that *Infernal Race* that can turn themselves into *Angels* of *Light*?

I was astonished at the slender-
 ness of this great *Monarch's Table*,
 and thought it held no proportion
 with the *Ancient Magnificence* of
 the Court of England, when there
 were not only five *substantiated*
 Courses at the *King's Table*, but
 the *Kitchings*, *Cellars*, and *Tables*
 were all day free to Entertain the
 Kings honest *Leiges* and *Subjects*,
 whose *Industry* and *Loyalty*, fur-
 nished the *Royal Table* with those
Bounties: It was when the *Palace*
 gave an *Example* of *Hospitality* to
 the *Nobles* and *Gentlemen* of the
Country, that the Land abounded
 with *Acts* of *Mutual Kindness*
 and *Charity*, the *King's* house was
 open to his *Subjects*, the *Landlords*
 to his *Tenants*, the *Countryman* to
 his *Neighbor*, and all of them to
 the *Poor*: But those happy days
 were before we were fond of
French Education and *Servants*,
 before we had learned to put out

I E D Servants

Servants and Horses to Livery; before *Debauchery* had thrust good *Hospitality* out of Doors: But my astonishment at the *King's* *Parcimonious* way of Living ceased, when I considered that He had *Embarrass* himself in a *War* with his *Neighbours*, that might not only compel him to *retrench* his *House-keeping*, but to *shut up* *House*.

It was impossible, notwithstanding the *Monsieur* had *habituated* himself to such a *Caressing* sort of *Aspect*, but some *inward uneasiness* would *shew* it self at his *Eyes*, sometimes; and, if well observed, he might well be discerned to *Flash* with a suddain *Surprize*, as if all were not well within, and that there was a *pain* which all the *Diversion* and *Gaiety* of his *Rich Seraglio* could not cure. I understood some news from *Ireland* did not please him, and was

G. 4.

mob

the

the more confirmed in it, for that, as soon as he had Dined, he was observed to betake himself to the Apartment of *Madam de Maintenon*; it having been *Customary* for him, when any thing *cross* his purposes, to *Ease* his *Cares* on the Breasts of his *Fair Ones*.

It was very *early* this Great Prince shewed his *Inclinations* to that Sex; that soon after his *Marriage* with the *Spanish Infanta* (whom he used but surlily) both the Queen and Q. Mother perceived *Madam de la Valliere* had, as they thought, a larger *share* in his *Kindness*, than was to be permitted: They omitted no *Intrigue* imaginable to break off the King from his *Conversation* with her, and finding all to fail, they at last prevailed with *Father Anat*, his then *Confessor*, to use his *Art* for bringing the King off from that *Lady*: The *Father*, with too much freedom

dom for his *Own Interest*, told the *King*, That way of Life would inevitably produce very bad Effects, and seemed to threaten him with some *Severe Penance*, in case he did not *Reforme*. This sort of proceeding, as it was quite Counter to the *Practice*, and *Politicks* of his Order, happened to be very *Unfortunate* for the *Father*; for the *King* Answered him with great *Indifference*; That he thanked him for his good *Advice*, but that hence-forward he would make use of no other *Confession*, but the *Parson of the Parish*. But whatever misfortune befell *Father Anat* for his *unseasonable Reproof*; the succeeding *Confessors* of that Order know how to make their *Court* better; or else they could never have deserved those extraordinary Testimonies of the *King's Bounty*, as are daily heaped upon them: They are not only his

Confessors, but his most *Cabiner*
and inward *Councellers*: It is they
have engaged his *Arms*, First, to
the *Extirpation* and *Destruction*
of the best part of his *Subjects*,
and now, against all the other
Princes in *Europe*; they have flat-
ter'd him with their *Parasitical*
Panegyrics, and *Encomiums*, in-
to a false *Notion* of himself, and
his *Affairs*, that he is become
weak enough to permit *Inscripti-*
ons bordering very near upon
Blasphemy, not only to Ape the
Humor of the *Heathen Empe-*
rors in their *Medals* and *Statues*,
but to have his *Own Name* Incer-
ted in the room of *Our Saviours*.
Upon his *Palace* they have set
this *Distick*.

Regia, Rex, Regnum, Triasunt mi-
racula Mundi,
Rex Animo, Regnum viribus, Arte
Domus.

Para-

Paraphrased.

*King, Kingdom, Palace, are Three
Wonders found.
He's Mad, They Naked, This on
Rotten Ground.*

Upon the Gate of one of their
Colleges in *Paris*, they have struck
out the Name of *Jesus*, which by
the *Rule* of their Order, is to be set
upon all their Buildings, and have
put the *King's* Name in its stead;
upon which, one very wittily
writes this,

*Abstulit hinc Jesum posuitque In-
signia Regis,
Impia Gens, Alium non habet illa
Deum.*

Rendered,

*They Jesus Name have t'ane from
their Abode,
And plac'd the King's, He only
is their God.*

After

After some time *Madam de Montespan* supplanted *Madam de Valiere*, who thereupon retired to a *Cloister*, and gave her Self to *Devotion*, as is exprest in the following Rhimes.

Deux grands Roys pour m'avoir se
 font fait une guerre,
 Donc l'un est Roy du Ciel, & l'autre
 de la Terre,
 Le Roy de Ciel vainqueur me conduit
 en ce lieu,
 Quel bon heur est plus grand sur
 la Terre & sur l'onde
 Que de me voir aujourd'hui l'Épouse
 d'un grand Dieu?
 D'Amante que j'étois du plus grand
 Roy du Monde.

Englished,

For me the King of Heaven and
 and Earth have strove,
 Which of the Mighty Two should
 gain my Love :

But

But Conquering Heaven has
brought me to this Place. I know
What Earthly Happiness can mine
surpass? Since from the greatest Princes
or Mistresses, I now need
Am now become Spouse to the
Deity.

But whatever Advantages *la*
Valliere made of her Exaltation in
the time of her Regency, or what-
ever she Omitted, Madam *Mon-*
tespan got her Relations into places
of greatest Honour and Profit;
which their own Merit would ne-
ver have raised them to; Her Bro-
ther being made Duke, Peer, and
Marshall of France, upon which a
Nobleman speaking of the diffe-
rence between Marshall *Feuillade*,
and Marshall *Vivonne*, said the first
was made Marshall by the Sword;
the other, which was *Vivone*,
Montespans Brother, by the Scab-
bard.

card. It hath not only been the
 good Fortune of the *Whores* of the
Royal Family in *France* to promote
 their *Brothers* and *Relations*; but
 some on this side the *Water* have
 been raised by *Placquet-interest* to
 such a Pitch, as neither their *Vir-*
tue nor *Valour* could ever have ad-
 vanced them: But this sort of
 Honour as it is seldom kept from
Tarnish and *Rust*, rarely outlives
 its own *Infamy*.

There was besides another *Miss*
 who stole from her *Spiritual Sponse*
 to participate of the *Embraces* of
 the King, her name was *Madam*
du Lude of the Country of *Lorraine*,
 and upon these three who included
 the *Vulgar*, the *Noble*, and the *Reli-*
gious, was this Epigram written,

La Valliere étoit du Commun,
La Montespan de la Noblesse,
Et La du Lude Chanoinesse,
Toutes Trois ne sont que pour un,
 Mais

*Mais sçavez vous en que veut faire
Le plus puissant de Potentat & voit
Lachofes paroit assez claire,
Il veut unir les Trois Estats.*

Englified,

*La Valliere of Common Race,
Montespan of Noble war,
And du Lude a Pious Nun,
All for Mistresses were known;
If you'd know the Reason why
These Three his Fav'rites he Creates
Our great Prince has a mind to try
To Unite the Three Estates.*

Not only were the Kindred of his Courtezans raised to Honours, but those that procured Miss-Royal were in the Road to preferment, and upon this Occasion the Prince de Marillac was made Grand Penneur, that is Chief Hunter, which Office could not but be agreeable to him that found the King's Game.

As

As for what else we could Observe in this once glorious Country, nothing occur'd but what hath before been hinted under the other heads at first laid down; so that upon the whole all this Concurr'd to make the Nation Unfortunate; and how is it possible any other Consequence can be expected from such Causes, where the King is a Tyrant, the Priests Covetous and Ignorant, the Gentry and Nobles Poor and Debauch'd, the People bigotted to Superstition and Slavery: So that as Holland is a Bogg Fertilized and Enriched, France is a Garden destroyed and laid Common; Holland is a Community of Freemen; France a Herd of Slaves and Beggars: And the Mighty Louis hath been all this while Un-tiling his own House to break his Neighbour's Windows.

F I N I S.

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